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The Maine Farmer.

S. L. BOARDMAN, Editor.

Our Home, Our Country, and Our Brother Man.

Hybridization.---No. 1.

What is a hybrid? How does it differ from a mongrel or a cross-breed? The parents of a hy brid belong to different species; the parents of a mongrel to different varieties of the same species; the parents of a cross-breed to different breeds of the same species; the distinction between the terms "mongrel" and "cross-breed" is not very definite. The word "mongrel" is applied to both animals and plants, but "cross-breed" seems to be confined to animals. To make our meaning more clear, let us take a few examples. The ass and the mare are of distinct species, and their offspring, the mule, is a *hybrid*. The Merino and the Cotswold sheep are two breeds of the same species, and their joint offspring would be a *cross-breed*. In the plant world, the pear and the apple are two separate species, and the offspring of a cross between them would be a *hybrid*; but the Baldwin apple and the Greening are only varieties of the same species, and a cross between them would produce a *mongrel*.

A broader term than any that we have used is a "genus," which is a group of animals embracing several species, as the genus, *Pyrus*, which includes the apple (*Pyrus malus*,) the Siberian crab (*Pyrus baccata*,) the pear, (*Pyrus communis*) the mountain ash or round wood (*Pyrus Americana*,) and many others; a still larger group is a "family," which embraces several genera, as the *Rose* family, which embraces all the roses, the apples and their kindred, the cherries, the plums, the peaches, the almonds, the strawberries, raspberries, and others. Another family is the *Vine* family, which includes the grape vines and the Virginia creeper. The same arrangement of varieties, species, genera, and families exists in the animal kingdom.

The ability of different individuals of animals or plants to unite in the production of offspring is confined within narrow limits. Those belonging to different genera can rarely, and those belonging to different families never, be crossed. The pollen from a rose would have no more effect on a lily or a honeysuckle than so much inorganic dust. Even an attempt to cross the rose and the apple, or the strawberry and the raspberry would be almost sure to fail; for they, although of the same family, belong to different genera. Among animals, it would be impoisible to cross the horse and the cow; or the salmon and the shad. If we next attempt to mate individuals of the same genus, but of different species, as the raspberry and the blackberry, the apple and the pear, the salmon and trout, the horse and the zebra, there is a fair prospect of success, and this success will give us hybrids. Still greater fertility is there between varieties or breeds of the same species; and finally the greatest fertility between individuals of the same variety. But these degrees of fertility are not constant. There are multitudes of closely allied species which will not unite, or unite with extreme difficulty, whilst other species, widely different from each other, can be crossed with perfect facility.

On the above principles we believe all naturalists are agreed. But here we come to a disputed point. Are hybrids fertile? In other words, can they continue their kind? Darwin shows conclusively, we think, that there are hybrid plants which are perfectly fertile, continuing their kind by seed to an unlimited number of generations, and although he admits that he knows of no thoroughly well authenticated cases of perfectly hybrid animals, he thinks there is good reason to believe that there are some such hybrids, and he cites several instances. On the other hand there is a numerous school of naturalists who maintain that no hybrid is ever perfectly fertile; that though some hybrids have the power of producing descendants, this power is limited and will certainly come to an end in a few generations. To obtain a hybrid capable of continuing its kind indefinitely is a great desideratum, and if we cannot do this the value of the process is rather limited. Fertility of hybrids is not so essential with many kinds of plants, such as can be propagated by cuttings, layers and grafts; but with those that must be raised from seed, sterility of hybrids means the impossibility of continuing your hybrid beyond the first generation. So with animals the inability of hybrids to continue their kind would place them at a great disadvantage as compared with the legitimate offspring of true species, perhaps so great as to counterbalance any superiority that they might possess in other respects.

The object of hybridying is to obtain a progeny superior to either progenitor. The constant aim of one who breeds animals or plants intelligently is to retain in the young the good qualities of both parents and eliminate the evil qualities so far as possible. There are many kinds domesticated by man which seem to be all that could be desired in certain respects, but very deficient in others. Sometimes it happens that the desirable qualities in which the mother is lacking do not exist in the breed or variety or even the species to which she belongs. Whether they can be originated by a long course of selection and interbreeding, may be a doubtful problem; and even if this is possible, it must require a great deal of time to develop these qualities and render them permanent. But if we can go outside of the variety or outside of the species and in the person of an alien mate bring in the qualities we are seeking for, we may be able in a single generation to obtain an individual combining all the excellencies that would otherwise have cost years of painstaking selection. Nay, it seems possible to obtain a hybrid whose good qualities shall surpass the united good qualities of both parents. Even in point of fertility, there are plants, says Darwin, that have "become modified in so peculiar a manner, that they are much more fertile when crossed by distinct species than when fertilized by their own pollen; but it remains to be seen whether the same thing is true of any hybrids themselves. It is well known that very close interbreeding is injurious, and that inferior blood from a distantly allied breed or variety has generally the effect of giving new vigor. There is some reason to believe that the new blood from other species will sometimes have the same effect. The hybrids of Gladiolus are, besides their superior fineness of color, often more hardy, and more prolific of flowers than either of the original species.

In another number we will resume this subject and give some account of what has actually been done in the production of hybrids.

The Season in Franklin County.

Writing of the season in Franklin County, in a recent letter, our agent Maj. S. Dill says:—"The hot dry weather is injuring our orchards in this vicinity. On some trees the leaves are curling up, turning yellow and droping off; the apples are dropping from some trees, seven-eighths of them having fallen off. I noticed one tree the (Duchess of Oldenburg) apples hat fall have the appearance of being cooked, they re brown and soft."

A Bundle of Notes.

The size of an object is no certain evidence of its value, so the fact that an article is a column, more or less, in length, is no proof that its value is to be reckoned by the space it occupies—and *vice versa*. Although we are no sticklers for the truth of the saying "the best goods come done up in small packages" yet we are firm believers in that other that "the day of small things is not to be despised," and herewith show our belief in the truth of the saying by giving our readers this paper of suggested items.

Our farmers are now all in the very midst of haying season and have no time to spend for pleasure or loafing or even entertaining visitors. Take notice city residents, cousins and acquaintances who think the summer season such a splendid time to go a visiting in the country. You are not wanted and farmers wives and daughters cannot wait upon you with any degree of pleasure until the haying season is over. A word to the wise, &c.

Judging from reports from all sections of the State the hay crop must be at least one-third less than the average. This fact is a weighty one to farmers. It means scarcity of fodder next winter and spring, with low prices for stock the coming fall. Let every pound of fodder be saved and stored for use. It will pay to cut it where never mowed before.

That our readers may judge of the value stock breeders place upon certain crosses of animals, we record the fact that Mr. Cochrane of Compton, Canada East, has sent, this season, his Short Horn cow "Duchess 97," to Mr. King's in St. Paul, Minn., to be served by the "Sixth Duke of Thorndale." What the exact distance is we cannot say, but Compton is 100 miles east of Montreal, and St. Paul is at the head of the steam navigation on the Mississippi river. The risks and expense involved were very great. Mr. Cochrane, it will be remembered, was a leading exhibitor of thoroughbred stock at the show in Portland last fall.

Feed yourselves and your hired help well during the haying season for there is no labor during the entire year that is so wearing upon the physical system. Enough and often should be the rule.

Butter is down to the lowest notch in price in the markets now. You can't afford to sell it now but you can afford to put in a little extra labor and make it so sweet and nice that it will keep the year round if necessary. It is sure to bring 42 cents a pound before next February and the difference between that and 25 cents contains all the profits—so you are too poor to sell it now. Delays we know are usually dangerous but this case is the exceptional one.

It will be a good idea to spend a few hours some warm forenoon in going through the cornfield and pulling up the weeds by hand thus destroying them before they ripen and seed the ground. A stitch in time, &c. This is applicable to other things beside weed pulling.

If your pigs don't have a pasture give them an armful of weeds or mow them a little fresh grass each day. It not only keeps them quiet and satisfied but they grow better and here the "pay" comes in. The only trouble we ever have to make our farmer readers adopt a certain plan or method of proceeding is to prove to them that it will pay to do so.

At a trial of certain new varieties of oats at the Michigan Agricultural College from last year the Norway produced 50 bushels to the acre, weighing 28 lbs. to the bushel, and the Excelsior 60 bushels weighing 35 lbs. Other varieties unknown in this State went still higher.

The lectures of Mr. Willard before the College boys at Orono, is a step in the right direction. What they need is to have them followed up during the summer and fall by practical, working, field lectures upon other prominent subjects by men who can tell what they know and knowing dare to practice it.

Weeds and grass in walks can be easily destroyed by using salt brine upon them. As our Western neighbors say, it will take only a few applications to make them "git up and git."

What is to be thought of the "calculation of a farmer who is obliged to prepare his fuel every day as required for use. There are some of that sort left yet, even in haying season.

State Fair Items.

We bespeak for the article by Hon. Thomas S. Lang, which appears in this issue a careful reading. Mr. Lang has done long and most able service in the cause of improved agriculture in our State, and we are happy to know that his whole energy and influence will be given towards making the coming exhibition of the State Society one of the most successful State Fair ever held in Maine.

At the last meeting of the Trustees, it was voted that annual members receive two tickets of admission to the grounds and ten to the State House, and that the time of receiving annual members be limited to September 1st. The annual membership fee is one dollar.

We regret exceedingly that in the account preliminary arrangements for the State Fair, as given in the news department of our issue for the 16th inst., the name of Seward Dill, Esq., as Superintendent of the Department of Agricultural Implements and Machines, should have been inadvertently omitted. This feature of the Exhibition has uniformly been one of great attractiveness and interest, and from Major Dill's supervision of the same department, not only at the State Fair of 1868, but at the U. S. Fair last year, in both of which he gave complete satisfaction, we may be sure that this department of the coming State Fair will be well managed.

Mr. Willard's Lectures---Correction.

In a private note just at hand from Mr. Willard, he speaks in high terms of the manner his lectures at Orono were reported by Master Olsson, and says he finds but one error that demands correction. This Mr. Willard does in the following paragraph:

"There is one error in abstract of Lecture 6 on Milk which I would like corrected. It occurs near the close of the abstract where the influence of cool, moist seasons on the *quality* of milk is alluded to. It is stated in the abstract that 'milk during such seasons makes a larger amount of butter, but little cheese, &c." Now what I said was that milk, during wet, cool seasons, was generally large in quantity but that less cheese was made per cow than in moderately dry seasons from a smaller quantity of milk. That dairymen and dealers were often deceived in making up prospective estimates of the cheese crops on this account, and that the *yield of cheese*, during wet seasons in Herkimer when milk appeared to be abundant, had fallen off 1,000,000 pounds from the quantity yielded in moderately dry seasons. I am rather sensitive in regard to errors of fact like this stated in a synopsis of the lecture, because in statements of this kind I mean to be correct and, indeed, I do not venture to make random statements upon dairy matters and none that I have not proved over and over again in experiments in my own herd and dairy."

☞ The July report of the Agricultural Department states that the great wheat-growing districts show a reduction in their condition and the crop will be 210,000,000 bush., a decrease of 48,000,000 bush. The increase of the breadth of the corn crop is greater than the decrease in the average yield. The increase in the New England States is about 2 per cent. The oat crop will equal that of last year's. Vermont being the only New England State below last year's average.

Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

Prepare for the State Fair!

As the time approaches for our annual fair I could hardly refrain from writing a few lines to your readers who are engaged in the various departments of farming interests, in reference to the influence of these occasions upon their labors. I have no idea that the farmers of Maine need a moment spent to convince them of the value of the privilege thus afforded, of mingling together in a convention for mutual benefit? An advantage equally enjoyed by the artisan and mechanic.

There can be no doubt that he who by a favorable opportunity of fortune or superior intelligence has advanced one step in producing improvements or facilitating progress in any department of industry, is a public benefactor, and an occasion to demonstrate his discovery or practice, or to exhibit his product, is not only justice to the individual but a necessity to the public, and the man who refuses to lend his hand to this mutual convention of interests, is selfish towards the public and short sighted in his own interests.

I am aware that many times it seems inconvenient and almost impossible to attend exhibitions of the industry of the year, and we are led to conclude if we have nothing to exhibit that it will not pay to attend, we have had ill luck, or there is one hindrance or another. If we have nothing to exhibit, it is time we had and here we shall find the inspiration. I do not believe there was ever a man who attended an exhibition of stock and products that did not wish he was a possessor of as good as the winner, and studied the cost and road to such success. This is the very spirit of the gathering.

Ocoular proof is worth all the articles contained in the MAINE FARMER since it was established.

If we are wearied and blue with cares it is well to take a day of let up. The varied interests of a fair adds to our individual strength physically, mentally and morally, it opens to us new unfoldings of nature, new applications of mechanical powers and a certain road to success. It may be the initiative day to the industrial success of your son or your daughter, whereby you may have been instrumental in adding another independent actor or thinker to the phalanx of industry.

Your Town shows, your County shows, your State shows are fields of incalculable benefit to the State. I know what I write, and many years of careful observation leads to a confirmation of an early conviction and the friendly recognition of the success of a neighbor is strength to all who witness it.

To any thoughtful man of years of experience allow me to appeal for your active agency in establishing beyond a contingency or chance of failure your days of exhibition. Establish them as days of profit, days of pleasure, as days of brotherly commingling in a common cause. To young men who seek an industrial profession, allow me to say I glory in your pluck, and enterprise. I covet your companionship in progress, entering a field boundless in its scope in every department. It is for you individually to elect whether you will be "like dumb driven cattle," or "be a hero in the strife." Intelligence is your armor, an honorable place in your profession and in society is your aim, each meeting with your neighbors or with competitors from other localities are schools the influence of which will gather shadows for good for a lifetime.

Have we state pride? It is certain that we lead the other states of New England in natural advantages, we can lead them in products of the soil, the cattle yard and the stud. Shall we take second rank because we lack energy, because we lack pluck, because we fear defeat in any department, if we can be beaten we ought to be the first to know it, and apply a remedy, always remembering that every advance may not be a victory, but brings its own reward. I sincerely hope for the advancement of honest labor before all else in the roads of success. it is certain when it does succeed and is prosperous all else takes a corresponding advance. For the benefit then of our local business, for the honor of the State in every department of industry, let us vie with each other in mutual courtesy and assistance. Two years ago saw a reunion of the horse and cattle interests, since which both have been a success. The State Fair has been in Portland and the western portion of the State has received advantages in their midst. Now the central portion takes their turn, and the eastern will follow in due course.

To breeders of horses allow me to say you have no chance for success without such occasions as these fairs afford you. It brings the purchaser to your market, who prefers to come to a legitimate fair and purchase from fair hands the animals he desires rather than go into the hands of sharpers to whom great prices must be paid. It is the farmer's and stock breeder's interest to sell direct if possible to the consumer. Thus both divide the profit of the middle man, and at these exhibitions you are able to correct your judgment and select qualifications for crosses which is the only legitimate road to excellence. There is no class of stock that does not have its faults and none that have not excellent points. Unite these together in good faith to show each other and the public these points and make preparation to correct the faults. The idea of pinning our faith upon one class of horses as the "sine qua non" of excellence is certainly disastrous. Maine has been making advances in this important branch of breeding as well as that of cattle, and ten purchasers among the wealthy come to Maine now to one ten years ago. To keep them coming we must advance. Other States see the necessity of strong efforts and Vermont now has a chartered organization under a capital of several hundred thousand dollars for the specific purpose of breeding the best horses that money can buy, and organized effort and intelligence can produce. I can but urge those who breed the class of horses in which I have been interested, whether Eatons, Drews, Knoxes, Patchens or Hambletonians, that there is no stopping place. Study what you want for the market and seek it wherever you can find it and engraft it upon your best. New men and lines of stock are coming among us. Hold out cordially the hand of greeting to them. By so doing may many such stock establishments as Messrs. Wright & Norcross with their distinguished stud of horses are establishing in Kennebec Co., be brought among us.

In conclusion will each man interested in farming or stock raising talk with his neighbor and plan to represent his locality.

I think farmers and breeders may congratulate themselves that a gentleman of Mr. Holbrook's ability is to take charge of the exhibition of stock as General Superintendent.

J. D. LANG.

For the Maine Farmer.

Bees in August.

Great care should be used this month not to tempt bees to robbing; leave no honey where they can get at it, and do not open hives to expose the combs while bees are flying, for this is almost sure to make trouble when honey is scarce in flowers. See that all stocks are strong and have a fertile queen. Under these circumstances there is no danger but what they will look out for themselves if let alone.

Queenless swarms should be united to one having a fertile queen or treated to brimstone now, for if left to themselves they must soon either be robbed or devoured by worms. The same may be said of all weak swarms.

In the vicinity we have had a very poor season for bees and I have similar reports from several other localities. Here, black bees that have cast swarms as well as the young swarms will most of them I fear need more honey than they will have to carry them through the winter.

Italians have been more successful. Most only are their store combs well filled but they have made a good surplus. Five stocks in my yard have stored three hundred pounds of honey in boxes,—an average of of sixty pounds each.

Buckwheat usually yields a large supply of honey and in sections where it is cultivated is a great help to light swarms. Although the honey obtained from it is of inferior quality and rot very saleable in the market it answers every purpose for the bees in winter and as it blooms after most other sources of honey are gone, would probably pay a large profit if sown near apiaries for its honey alone. So profuse is the yield from this plant that the swarming fever is frequently received and swarms issue during its bloom.

J. H. C., of Temple Mills asks about the utility of so many drones and how to manage them. When a single colony is isolated far from other bees as is frequently the case probably the great number of drones would not be objectionable, but when several are kept in one yard either usually has enough for the whole. The drone is the male bee and the queen leaves the hive to meet them in the air for impregnation. At this time no eggs or brood is left in the hive from which another queen can be raised and her loss would be a total loss of the colony. Hence it is desirable that she should make as quick a trip as possible and not remain long in the air exposed to the many accidents that might befall her. Drones are great consumers and the less there are more than is actually necessary the better. A strong colony *will have* some drones in summer but what they can raise in a piece of comb as large as one's hand seems to satisfy them as well as half a hive full. In movable comb hives all the drone comb can be removed but about that amount and worker comb fitted into its place. This puts a stop to raising so many drones and the colony is made much more prosperous thereby.

Plymouth. G. W. P. JERRARD.

For the Maine Farmer.

Farm Notes.

Did you ever think how many little things are occurring during the farm work of every day and week which are of moment and which if remembered would be of much value, but which in the hurry of the time are forgotten or overlooked. Now if these things had been committed to paper at the time or at the close of the day, even in outline and never so briefly, they would have been just so much saved for use as occasion might require. A little note book and lead pencil is not a bad sort of a thing for a farmer to always carry in his pocket, and the practice is especially recommended to young farmers, who will find it far more beneficial than the plug of tobacco, which too many of these contain. The practice of jotting down facts to be remembered, events that have occurred, lists of things to be done, &c., &c., will be found to be a great assistance toward making things come out right; systematising things, and having a time and reason for everything and everything in its time.

Some men seem to think because their business is that of farming that is an excuse for a slipshod method of conducting their operations. Never was a greater fallacy, and he who carries out such a belief by practice will find that he has made a big mistake; his vocation will not pay, or as the saying is, he will come out at the little end of the horn. There is no profession wherein a more business like and systemetic method of operation is necessary than in farming in any of its branches. This is plainly enough to be seen from the fact that no man can be a successful farmer by proxy. He must attend to and oversee his business and conduct it upon true business principles or he will fail, as witness the too many lamentable failures to be seen in every section.

But I am wandering from the title at the head of this article. I proposed when I put pen to the sheet of paper before me to jot briefly a few rough farm notes to help fill up your columns during the dearth likely to follow the opening of the haying season, the most busy season upon the farm for the whole year.

The subject of cutting grass or haying is the one in which we are all particularly interested at this time, for every farmer is engaged in it at some time during July. When shall we cut and how shall we cut are the two leading points for discussion and decision by every farmer. He is not in a condition to theorize any longer, for time demands that his knowledge shall be experimental now. He could think, and guess, and calculate before, but now he must decide upon some plan and carry that decision into execution.

It is a fact that there has been a great change in Maine during the past ten years in regard to the time of cutting grass, and perhaps I am warranted in saying a greater change in the manner of doing it. There is hardly a farmer, or stock grower, or feeder in the State but who will now acknowledge the superior value of early cut over late cut grass. By this I mean grass cut while in blossom or on the other hand left in the field until the plants have ripened their seeds. It is too late in the day to argue the question now or to go to the trouble of educing evidence to prove the truth of the assertion. The answer to the query how shall we cut our grass? is answered by the fact that the sale of mowing-machines, horse-rakes, tedders and forks are nearly doubling each year. The introduction of these labor-saving machines—evidences of superior mechanical skill brought ont to supply a growing want and demand—has changed the whole system of haying. If the old farmer of forty years ago, or even twenty years, since the days of the scythe-snath, spreading pole and horse-rake, could be permitted to visit the scenes where he exhibited his muscular skill in the haying field, he would be silent with astonishment and wonder; for in no department of industrial labor, is the evidence of improvement and progression more apparent than in farm machinery. In the place of rough, rocky fields filled with boulders and cradle knolls, he would find a smooth clean surface leveled and neatly turfed; instead of a crew of men swinging the hand scythe, while the perspiration rolled from them in great drops—a literal carrying out of the original Garden of Eden curse—he would see only the swift-moving, clicking mower drawn by noble horses and guided by the farmer's boy who rides while he works and uses brain and the result of brain labor instead of muscle, while the grass falls swift and fast in lengthening swaths before the glittering, clicking knives—the work of a dozen men done in a day.

Not less wonderful and effectual are the changes brought about by the introduction of other machines or improvements in this department. The tedder spreads, lightens and assists in making the grass, the horse-rake gleans the field and bunches the hay for the pitchers fork, and the horse fork stows it away with ease in the farthest end and highest point in the barn if necessary. Except the mower and the horse-rake, these machines are not in general use in this State, but are fast being introduced, having been found to be entirely practicable. And even self loaders for loading the hay upon the rack in the field have been invented and said to work successfully. There is no telling where inventive genius may stop, but there is one thing which cannot be done. We cannot make the grass grow by machinery, though even that operation can be materially aided.

But my notes all seem to be running in one direction—upon the haying question; which, perhaps, is excusable under the circumstances. An old farmer on being asked what tool was of the most consequences on the farm, and therefore should be the best, answered, the fork, saying that farmers in Maine used the fork of some kind every day more or less for more than nine months out of twelve. During the summer and fall his labors consist of "pitching in, and during the winter of pitching out." He was pretty near sighted and the hardest "pitching in" time is now upon us. Haying is hard, muscular, sweating, and straining labor, take it at the best. The strain and demand upon the system is great and should be provided for amply as far as possible. It is absolutely cruel to those who labor in the hayfield to give them breakfast at sunrise, dinner at noon, and supper at sunset, as is the case too often. A luncheon in the field between meals is absolutely necessary to sustain the frame unless it is almost iron. Another method which we think preferable is to eat a light lunch after rising in the morning, breakfast at 6 o'clock, dinner at 11 A. M., supper at half past 4 or 5 o'clock, and a light luncheon after finishing. The stomach is then furnished at regular intervals, it does not feel empty with a sort of inexpressible "goneness" and is not full to go to bed upon.

I saw a farmer, yesterday, drive his team and horse-rake a couple of miles to a blacksmith for repairs on the rake, when only a few bolts and the use of the necessary tools would have been sufficient to put the rake in workable condition. At home there was a field of hay waiting to be raked and the time of a man and horse lost for the lack of them. Would it pay?

It is a little surprising to see what a change has come about within a few years in regard to the farms and condition of fields, upon which mowers may be and are used. It was supposed that only those fields which were perfectly smooth and free from trees, boulders, stumps, &c., could be mowed with them; but last year and this, farmers are using them when five years ago they would have considered it impossible to do so. Something of this is caused by improvements in the machines, but it consists mostly in a better acquaintance and understanding of how to operate them. What a vast difference there is in people's ideas or at least in their practice in regard to making hay. Don't we make it too much generally, or are we not more apt to err in that than in the opposite direction. I think so. If grass is mown after the dew is off, it requires but little sun and experience to make it properly and sufficient for packing away unless it was very green when cut. A warm, dry cloudy, windy day is better for hay making than a hot, clear, sultry, scorching one. In the one case the grass is made, in the other it is scorched or burned. Then there is a difference in the different plants of which hay is made. The grass and the clover for instance require different treatment. If clover is exposed long to the hot sun the leaves dry and curl, and become brittle and in hauling are broken off, thus losing the valuable portion of the plant. The grass being tougher leaved will bear tough usage.

But my notes are growing long and there is not much variety so I will cut them off, promising more of the "spice of life" if I get time to continue them.

Bel'ast, July, 1870. B.

For the Maine Farmer.

The Prospect at Orono.

DEAR SIR:—Agreeably to a promise made in a recent note to yourself, I shall endeavor to give a brief account of the progress already made in work upon the College grounds and indicate some of the plans to be carried out during the present season.

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees the latter part of April it was decided that the land immediately in front of and surrounding the College buildings should be thoroughly underdrained preparatory to its more complete improvement. Accordingly thirteen drains have been opened extending a distance of thirty-six rods from the height of land back of the buildings to the road in front. These drains are parallel, four feet deep and forty feet apart. The tile to be used is pipe tile (with collars) one and one-fourth inches interior diameter, and is undoubtedly entirely adequate for the work to be done. The tile will be laid to only about one-third draining capacity, according to Waring's estimates. It has been obtained of Messrs. C. W. Boynton & Co., Woodbridge, N. J., at the suggestion and recommendation of Geo. E. Waring, Jr. Such tile as is wanted is not manufactured in our State. (The cost of transportation to Bangor has been less than $3 per thousand feet. This with the first cost $22 per thousand feet, makes the expense of the tile with collars at Bangor about $25 per thousand feet. Tile can undoubtedly be manufactured on the College grounds at a lower rate, but this could not be done in season to answer our immediate need.) It is now being delivered where needed, and will be laid in a short time. It may be proper to add that the ditching has been done in part by students, and in part by men hired for the purpose.

The work of finishing the upper rooms in the Laboratory is being pushed forward vigorously under the direction of Mr. W. D. Chase of Upper Stillwater. The trimmings are in readiness to go on as soon as the plastering shall be completed. Two coats have already been put on, and the skim coating will be commenced to-morrow. In the second story of this building are a large lecture room, a room for philosophical apparatus, and a room for the mineralogical Cabinet.

The excavation for the cellar of the ell to the Laboratory has been made. This work was done by the students. Mr. David McMullen of Orono is now engaged in laying the foundation for the ell, which is to be of brick, one story high, and to contain the working room for students in chemical analysis.

The principal new buil'ings that have been definitely planned are a Boarding-house and a Dormitory. The new Dormitory is to be located 250 feet north of the Dormitory already built and to range in front with the Laboratory. The space, 250 feet, between the two Dormitories is left for a building at some future time to be erected.

The new Dormitory, 40x50 feet inside the walls, will be built of brick. It is to be three stories high with a French roof which makes it nearly equivalent in space to a building of four stories. On each of the principal floors there will be ten rooms of the same dimensions as those upon the other floors. A suite of rooms on the lower floor will be reserved for a professor and his family.

The Boarding-house will be located fifty feet in the rear of the new Dormitory, and will be connected with it by a corridor. This building 30x50 feet outside, will be made of wood. It will be two stories high and the dining hall will occupy the full lower floor. Upon the second floor will be eight rooms 10x12 feet for the family occupying the house and for the domestics. The ell extending back from the main building will be 23 ft. 4 in. by 40 ft. in length, and will contain on the lower floor kitchen, store-room, pantry and laundry. A large room on the second floor will be used for a drying room. The digging of the cellar and laying the foundation of this building are under contract, and work upon it has already been commenced. It is designed that within 60 days the Boarding-house shall be completed.

The bricks to be used in building will be manufactured at the college brick yard. One hundred and forty thousand have already been moulded and eighty five thousand set in the kiln for burning. The first kiln will contain one hundred and sixty thousand and will be burned by the middle of July. Two other kilns will be burned in the course of the season.

The road which now passes through the lower part of the College grounds near the river, is to be straightened, and a driveway (curvelinear) from this road, some 30 feet in width, is to be made, which shall better accommodate the College buildings. Trees will be set along the sides of the road and the driveway, and in other respects, something will be done towards the proper ornamentation of the grounds in front of the buildings.

I have been obliged to write hastily, so omit several points about which I designed to write, and to treat none very fully in detail. I should not however close this letter without stating that Mr. Willard is giving a very acceptable and a very profitable course of lectures upon the subject of Dairy Farming. The young men connected with the College have been learning to-day, practically the details of cheese-making, with Mr. Willard for their instructor.

Hon. Lyndon Oak of Garland, one of the Trustees of the College, is here, and has supervision of the work in general.

The students apply themselves very faithfully to study and to labor, and I scarcely need to add that all here interested in the College are greatly cheered that plans for the promotion of its interests can now be successfully carried out.

I am, yours most truly,

M. C. FERNALD.

Maine State College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts, Orono, June, 1870.

For the Maine Farmer.

"Tax the Dogs."

In a recent issue of the good old FARMER, I read "tax the dogs." This inspires me with new life so I send you two dollars for another year's subscription. I am glad to see somebody waking up to the subject of the long continued nuisance, the dogs. Our country now is literally swarming with them and they are not only the greatest nuisance in the way of annoyance to the traveler, bailing him when passing by with his everlasting yelping and howling, but they are the most destructive of anything except the elements and of those the Almighty Ruler has sole control. Now if you don't believe this I will give you a few facts from the National Agricultural Report. Hear the language of the reporters, they say the the slaughter goes on and the useless cur is not even taxed. The report is given in counties. I will give one county in each State that they have given. Maine, York Co., 312; Vermont, Rutland Co., 450; Mass., Franklin Co., 300; New York, Genesee Co., 500; Penn., Philadelphia Co., 1500; Mich., Ionia Co., 1000; Ill., Cass Co., 2000; Iowa, Lucas Co., 1200; Kansas, Doniphan Co., 1300: in thirty counties in Missouri 7911 killed by the dogs; Kentucky, Boon Co., 3000. In thirty counties the reporters give 37,412 sheep killed by dogs. Now these are but a few counties compared with the whole United States. At this ratio the dogs have destroyed some millions of sheep. Taking this in connection with the report of Mr. Call that he had to take his sheep from his pasture to keep them from being massacred by the dogs, is it not time the people were waking up to the subject? Where are our legislators pretending to be wise and making good and wholesome laws. Let them make a law to protect dogs and not a cent tax to pay on them. In some parts of Europe the dogs are permanently taxed and it is a large addition to their revenue. If our wise legislators don't take this in hand and pass a law to permanently tax the destructive curs and advance us in civilization beyond the mother country, let us heave them all overboard and choose some that will. Let us echo the sound in tones of thunder till it is accomplished, which must be, or sheep raising (which is a source of wealth in this country) must be dispensed with as it is in some towns already.

Tenant's Harbor. DAVID S. SEAVEY.

For the Maine Farmer.

Turnips Rotting on Potato Ground.

Have you ever observed that turnips are liable to take the disease known as the potato rot, if planted upon ground where potatoes had grown and rotted the previous season? Such has been my experience. In the summer of 1869 I planted the Sweet German turnip on land where potatoes grew and rotted some the season previous. The result was that the turnips were troubled with a dry rot and hollow heartedness to a very great an ext; full three-fourths of the whole crop was worthless except for cattle, and I have my doubts as to their value even for that purpose. The crop was a fair one as to quantity but not in quality. I could account for the rotting of the crop in no way, but on the "theory that the disease was left in the ground and went from that to the turnip crop. If any one has had similar experience they would do well to let it be known through your paper.

Kingston, Mass. A. H.

For the Maine Farmer.

Building Barns.

Maine, unlike many other States in the Union, is celebrated for its long winters; and therefore the farmers in this State must provide shelter for their stock on a greater scale and with more conveniences than the farmers of the West. Perhaps there is no State in the Union that has made more improvement in those things which belong to barns, and are adapted to the wants of stock in winter, than Maine. Although she may be slow to invest in the mower and reaper, yet her brawny sons are not slow to use them, or to see the advantage such machines possess over the old method of getting hay by hand. As the Maine farmer is under the necessity of having hay in winter for his stock, so he is under the same necessity of having a barn; and these two things are no small tax upon the farmers of our State. A man may judge pretty nearly of the prosperity of a farmer, by the *"outward appearance,"* not of the man, but of the man's farm. A good barn is the farmer's sign; *"known and read of all men."* If the barn is not snug and warm in winter, we are apt to think that there is but little within that will pay to keep sheltered. It is true there are a great many old barns in New England that are not fit to winter stock in; but as a general thing the owners of these intend to put up good barns in place of them, or make thorough repairs. It is often the case that the farmer builds his barn too small; and soon finds that he needs another as large as the first. It is much cheaper in the end to build one large enough to hold as much hay as the two smaller ones would. The *cellar* to a barn is of great importance. Where there is none it can in most cases be built so as to be convenient, and accessible. No man knows the real worth of a barn cellar who is not acquainted with it. The barn cellar is the farmer's *cash pocket*. When a cellar cannot be made, a good manure shed is a great saving and will, in most every case, pay the interest on double the cost. Several months ago, I called on one of your subscribers, Emery Knowles, Esq., of Belgrade, and was pleased with his manner of providing for the comfort of his stock. His barn is, I think, 45 X 60 feet with a lean-to shed the whole length. A spring some seventy rods from the barn supplies pure water, which is conducted to the cellar through log tubes laid below the action of frost, the spring being lower than the cellar proper, Mr. K. conceived the idea of digging a long slope in one end of his barn cellar, to the depth of seven feet, down which his cattle can decend, and wherein is placed the watering trough with an outlet drain, so that there is an abundance of water all the time, and the cellar completely dry. As there is a large valley in the rear of his barn, I suggested that a good sized reservoir might be cheaply built, so as to save the overflow from the trough, and be of great value in case of fire.

I pen these lines hoping that all of your readers who are about building barns, will study the lay of their land; and while they eat their bread by the sweat of the brow, may they realize that every blessing comes from God.

Sidney, July 4th, 1870. C. BUTTERFIELD.

For the Maine Farmer.

Water Wheels---No. 4. Breast-Wheel.

Breast-Wheels are designed for falls of water varying from 6 to 15 feet, and for flows of from 5 to 80 cubic feet per second. They are constructed with either ordinary buckets or with blades confined by a *curb*. When buckets are enclosed in a *curb*, they are not required to hold water; hence they may be set *radial*. The buckets also will be numerous, as the loss of water escaping between the wheel and the curb is less the greater their number; and that they may not lift or carry up water with them from the tail race, it is proper to give the bucket such a plane that it may leave the water as nearly vertical as practicable. The distance between the buckets, should be equal to the depth of the shrouding, or at from 10 to 15 inches. It is essential that there should be air-holes in the floor of the buckets, to prevent the air from impeding the flow of water into them, as the water admitted is nearly as deep as the interval between them; and the velocity of the wheel should be such that the buckets should be filled to $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{3}$ of their volume. The enclosure within which the water flows to a breast-wheel as it leaves the sluice is a mantle or curb. When wheels are constructed of iron and are accurately set in masonry a clearance of .5 of an inch is sufficient.

High Breast-wheels are used when the level of water in the *tail-race* and *penstock* or *forebay* are subject to variation of heights, as the wheel revolves in the direction in which the water flows from the buckets, and *back water* is therefore less disadvantageous; added to which, penstocks can be so constructed as to admit of an adjustable point of opening for the water to flow upon the wheel. The effect of this wheel is equal to that of the overshot, and in some instances, from the advantageous manner in which the water is admitted to it, it is greater when both wheels have the same general proportions. To compute the proportion and effect of a Breast-Wheel:

Illustration.—The flow of water is 15 cubic feet per second; the height of the fall, measuring from the centre of pressure of the opening to the tail-race, is 8.5 ft.; velocity of revolution 5 ft. per second; and depth of buckets 1 foot, filled to .5 of their volume. Width of wheel = v-$av3$, s representing depth and v velocity of buckets; 15-1x5=3, and as the buckets are but .5 filled, 3 divided by .5=6 ft. Assume the water is to flow with double the velocity of the rotation of the wheel; hence v=5x2=10 ft.; and the fall required to generate this velocity=$v2\ 2g$x1.1=h=100-64.333x1.1=1.71 ft. Deducting this height from the total fall, there remains for the hight of the curb or for the fall during which the weight of the water alone acts, h—h=8.5—1.71=6.79 ft. Making the radius of the wheel 12 ft., and the radius of the bucket circle 11.5 ft., the whole of the mechanical effect of the flow of the water=15x62.5x8.5=7968.75 lbs.

Thomaston, 1870. WM. T. S. *Civil Engineer.*

Oiling Farm Implements.

EVERY farmer should have a can of linseed oil and a brush on hand, and whenever he buys a new tool, he should soak it well with the oil and dry it by the fire or in the sun, before using. The wood by this treatment is toughened and strengthened, and rendered impervious to water. Wet a new hay-rake and when it dries it will begin to be loose in the joints; but if well oiled, the wet will have but slight effect. Shovels and forks are preserved from checking and cracking in the top of the handle by oiling; the wood becomes smooth as glass by use, and is far less liable to blister the hand when long used. Axe and hammer handles often break off where the wood enters the iron: this part particularly should be toughened with oil, to secure durability. Oiling the wood in the eye of the axe will prevent its swelling and shrinking, and sometimes getting loose. The tools on a large farm cost a large sum of money; they should be of the most approved kinds. It is a poor economy at the present extravagant prices of labor, to set men at work with ordinary, old-fashioned implements. Laborers should be required to return their tools to the convenient places provided for them; after using, they should be put away clean and bright. The mould-boards of plows are apt to get rusty from one season to another, even if sheltered; they should be brushed over with a few drops of oil when put away, and will then remain in good order till wanted.—*Farm Journal.*

Pull the Weeds.

Although the hoe and cultivator have done good work there are still left in many places great numbers of weeds. The corn is now too tall for the working of the cultivator, and the potatoes are too far advanced. The growth of weeds at this season is perfectly aston

THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

The Maine Farmer.

Augusta, Saturday, July 30, 1870.

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$2.00 in advance, or $2.50 if not paid within three months of the date of Subscription.

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☞ A subscriber desiring to change the post office direction of his paper must communicate to us *the name of the office to which it has previously been sent*, otherwise we shall be unable to comply with his request.

COLLECTOR'S NOTICE.

MR. J. F. NUTT is now in Washington County.

MR. V. DARLING is now canvassing in Oxford county.

Farmer Office Removed.

The Office of the MAINE FARMER has been removed to Smith's Block, on Water street, opposite Granite Hall Building.

Notes on the War.

We cannot imagine anything more absurd than the attempt of the *Boston Post* and certain other papers to exalt the part Louis Napoleon is now playing into a struggle for principle. Says the *Post*, speaking of a hypothetical alliance between Prussia and Russia.

"They represent pure unadulterated despotism—the divine right of the bayonet, an irresponsible control of human beings, the suppression of all freedom and a return to the worst form of absolutism, against which the masses of Europe were but a short time ago in arms. It remains to be seen whether England and the other states of Europe will passively consent to such a union. Not one of them would be safe in the event of disaster to France, which stands like a bulwalk in defence of popular liberty, of suffrage, of freedom everywhere, and offers the material advantage of protection to smaller powers which dread lest the fate of Denmark should be their own."

Verily this is crowning the devil king of saints. Such language is so ridiculous that it is hard to believe in the sincerity of its author. Every one who has watched the course of events since Louis Napoleon anointed himself Emperor with the blood of the French people, knows that he, beyond any ruler in Europe, is the personification of selfish absolutism. He seeks the glory and prosperity of France only because it will also shed luster on himself and his dynasty. With the most crude, illiberal ideas of government, his personal rule has been a long, pertinacious attempt to promote the physical well being of his subjects and at the same time crush out all freedom of thought and speech. He is essentially a reactionist.

So far as we can see, there is no principle involved in the war. It is a mere struggle for power. Napoleon is the aggressor, having without cause bullied and insulted Prussia with the express purpose of forcing a war, and having finally with the most indecent haste plunged into hostilities on the strength of a report about a telegram sent by Prussia to other powers. Prussia has our sympathies, since we believe that she is defending herself against unjust demands, and that her success would be better for civilization and humanity than the success of Napoleon.

Our readers should be on their guard against the telegrams from Paris. The government exercises a rigorous censorship over the telegraph, and without doubt sifts out a great deal that is unfavorable to its cause. The Paris despatches have represented the press and the people to be universally clamorous for war, and have concealed the true aspect of the debates in the Corps Legislatif. The truth came by the way of London. It appears that the members of the opposition in the Corps Legislatif refused to join in the cheers of the majority when war was announced, and again sat silent when an extra war credit of 500,000 francs was voted. They were upbraided by the majority, and M. Thiers, himself a decided opponent of Prussia, and an advocate of war against her in 1866 when she was conquering Austria and establishing the North German Confederation, made a vehement speech, denouncing the war as unjustifiable. Not a word of this speech was allowed to reach England by telegraph. It came by the Paris papers, and they further revealed the fact that it was only the government organs that advocated the war. The *Debats*, *Temps*, *Rappel*, *Siecle*, *Reveil* and *Cloche* are all strongly opposed to it. "An immense majority of the provincial journals resisted war." Yet war being declared it is not thought that any party will long continue to oppose it.

MAINE'S NATURAL ADVANTAGES One needs but to travel through southern New England with his eyes open to the natural features of the country to come home again to Maine with a firmer faith in the destiny of this neglected State. Knowing in advance only the population, wealth and enterprise of Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut, the observer is surprised to see the poverty of the oasis on which their prosperity rests. A miserable sandy or gravelly soil, fit only for ballasting railroads, supporting generally but a stunted forest growth, prevails almost everywhere. There may be some spots of good farming land in Massachusetts, but you may travel far and wide without finding them. Industry and thrift, devoted to a great variety of occupations, have built up their thriving villages. The people of Maine are sprung from the same stock, and are not inferior, in any of the qualities needed for the building up of a prosperous State, to those of other parts of New England. Massachusetts has had the advantage of us in position and in time, but our turn is certainly coming. With our superior water power, and equal facilities in other respects for manufacturing industries, we shall combine a fertility of soil far superior to the States that have thus far led us in the march to prosperity.

Then, too, our mineral treasures, that must at some time come into use, our coast line, with its excellent harbors, and our position with reference to Canada which is so be annexed to the United States, and will need a commercial centre somewhere within our borders, all point to a future more prosperous than our past.

☞ We learn from the *Kennebec Journal* that there are thirty-nine vessels loading ice and waiting to load, between Bath and Halowell, on the Kennebec river as follows: Bark Almira Coombs at Sturgis's ice houses at Pittston, to load for Key West; British bark San Dominique, loading at Sturgis's houses at Richmond for parties in Montevideo. The Knickerbocker Ice Company of Philadelphia have fourteen vessls loading at their houses at Hallowell, Dresden, Richmond, Reed's Rocks and Bath. A. Berry of Dresden has five; Gage & Co. have three barks at Richmond loading, and three more coming. N. Mitchell has three, W. & C. Russell have six, Sagadahoc Co. have two, Cedar Grove two, Hartford City Ice Co. of Hartford, Conn., one, J. L. Cheeseman two, J. E. Black, Hallowell, one.

NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL CONVENTION. The "American Normal School Association" and the National Teachers' Association will hold their annual Conventions at Cleveland, Ohio; the former on the 15th and 16th days of August, and the latter on the three following days. The proceedings promise to be of great interest and importance. Arrangements have been made for the entertainment of delegates upon reasonable terms and for a liberal reduction of railroad fares.

☞ At the annual meeting of the Augusta Young Men's Christian Association held in this city on Monday evening, 18th inst., the following officers were chosen: President, David Cargill; Vice Presidents, H. F. Wood, Frederic Mathews, Elisha Atkins, A. N. Moore, Geo. A. Philbrook; Recording Secretary, Eugene Allen; Treasurer, S. S. Brooks; Executive Committee, D. Cargill, Elisha Atkins, E. S. Mayo.

☞ The Prize Declamation of the Sophomore Class of the Maine Agricultural College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts will take place on Tuesday, August 2d, commencing at a quarter before eight in the evening, at the Methodist church in Orono. Examination at the close of the term will occur the next day.

Chinese versus Irish.

Perhaps we had better written *Irish* versus *Chinese*; for in the relations between these two nationalities the Irish are always the aggressors and the Chinese the sufferers. The bulk of the Crispins at North Adams, whose tyrannous conduct drove Mr. Sampson to import the pioneer colony of Chinese into Massachusetts, was made up of Irish and French Canadians, and that order all through Massachusetts, it is asserted, is largely made up of the former. In California the class that receives the Chinese immigrants with jeers and abuse, that mobs them, and strives to drive them from every occupation, is Irish. It is the Irish that are filling San Francisco and threatening to make it what they have made New York, a paradise of great and little robbers, a blemish on the fair face of American civilization. Bayard Taylor says: "This element threatens to become predominant, as it already is in New York—and with the same results. It taints the municipal government; it buys its supremacy by jobs and contracts; it shapes the course of justice according to its prejudices, and contributes more than any other influence to establish the Tyranny of Labor in California. . . . . The hostility to Chinese immigration, for instance, comes chiefly from this element, and we should hear little of it were it not for the political use to which it was so easily applied. Some of the bitterest anti-Mongolians in California are the very men who have made the freest use of Chinese labor, and who are thoroughly aware how much of the material development of the State has been drawn from this source. So far, I have found in private only a good report of the Chinese immigrants, and I have seen no public evidence of a prejudice against them, although I am told that a 'demonstration' occurs on the arrival of each steamer from Asia."

We do not claim to have any great love for the Chinese, nor to be at all desirous that they should come among us, but it is time for somebody to cry, "fair play." We have never yet undertaken to forbid any people of whatever race to come and dwell among us. Although it is very plain that among the many good citizens who have come to us from abroad there are some whose character is quite the opposite, we have thrown our doors open to all. If now we are to begin a new policy, a policy of exclusion, let us first exclude all further addition to the race that has made our metropolis a reproach, that fills our jails, that disturbs the peace with bloody riots, that has twice in armed bands sallied forth from our borders against our unoffending neighbors. But we do not imagine that the people who have opened their doors to all the world with so much eclat, have endured with patience the many ills that their magnanimity has cost them, that have stood by the negro until he is fully established in the enjoyment of equal rights with the whites, are going to be so grossly inconsistent as to forbid the immigration of Chinese.

ASSASSINATION OF COL. BUEL. Intelligence was received in this city from St. Louis by telegraph on Sunday night last, of the death of Col. David H. Buel, late commandant of the U. S. Arsenal in this city, but for nearly a year past in charge of the Arsenal at Leavenworth, Kansas. The despatch states that he was assassinated on the evening of the 22d inst., while returning from a party at the house of Gen. Sturgis, and that the assassin is unknown. This is all the information which has thus far been received here of an event which brings sadness to many hearts among those who knew and esteemed Col. Buel for his many genial and manly qualities. He was a gentleman of cultivated and liberal tastes, thoughtful for the poor and unfortunate, of kind and gentlemanly manners to all, a thorough and loyal soldier, and though a strict disciplinarian in the exercise of his official duties, always just and considerate in his treatment of those under his command, never exacting arbitrary or unreasonable obedience nor visiting the delinquences of his subordinates with unusual or unnecessary punishments We make this statement because of an impression to the contrary that has found its way into the columns of one of our city papers, and which from our intimate personal acquaintance with Col. Buel we have reason to believe is entirely unfounded and unjust to his memory. Those who knew him best in the various relations of friendship, of business or of professional intercourse, knew him but to love, esteem and honor him. He leaves an invalid wife and two young children, who, by the dastardly act of an unknown assassin, are thus deprived of the love and care of a husband and father.

Since writing the above we learn by a despatch from Leavenworth, that the assassin of Col. Buel was a private soldier named John M. Malone and that he has escaped arrest.

☞ Orders have been received by Col. DeWitt, the Superintendent of the A. & W. Sprague Manufacturing Company for the immediate reconstruction of the Kennebec Dam, destroyed by the ice freshet last winter, and operations were commenced last Monday and will be vigorously prosecuted under the immediate direction of Ira D. Sturgis, Esq, who has been placed in charge of the work. It is unnecessary to say that it will be expeditiously and thoroughly done. About fifty men are now employed upon the Dam and the number will be increased as rapidly as they can be put to work to advantage. We are informed by Mr. Sturgis that from 15,000 to 18,000 tons of ballast and about a million feet of timber, hemlock, spruce and pine, will be required for the work. Contracts have been made for the delivery of the ballast which will be collected on the banks of the river above and boated down to the Dam, and the timber has been already purchased. It is hoped that the present low stage of the river will be protracted until the structure is beyond the reach of danger from the fall freshets. From six to eight weeks will be required for the purpose. In the meantime, another large crew of men are employed in building the new stone bulkhead on the west end, the foundations of which are a solid ledge extending the entire distance. It will be a massive and substantial structure, requiring a longer time for its completion, as upon its solidity and permancy depends the security of everything below it. Work upon the new factory building is also making good progress, the stone covering to the arches of the race-way and the foundations of the northern end of the factory being nearly completed. Upon the whole the present aspect of affairs is of the most cheerful character, and we trust we may congratulate our citizens upon the speedy prospect of an improved business future for Augusta.

☞ We have received from E. E. Patterson, music publisher, 144 Water street, a sweet little nursery song, entitled "Hu-h-a-By," by Mrs. Anna M. Wells, the music composed by Prof. M. C. Milliken of this city. It is a charming lullaby, full of sweet and tender sentiment, which the talented composer with exquisite grace and feeling has set to delightful music. It ought to be one of the most popular songs ever written. Every baby's mother should sing it to her child with the cradle accompaniment.

We understand that Prof. Milliken has been urged to publish some of the sacred pieces composed by him for the use of the choir of the Winthrop street church, and sung to such so finely by them during the past two or three years. They evince a high order of talent, and have been greatly admired by all whose musical taste and cultivation qualify them to appreciate and enjoy their performance. We hope he will be encouraged to do so.

☞ Mr. Luther Hall, one of the oldest residents of Litchfield, on the 18th inst., had a large scirrhus cancer removed from the right auxiliary space or armpit. The operation, which is considered one of the most difficult and dangerous in surgery was performed by Dr. L. A. Shattuck of this city, assisted by Drs. Marble and Colby of Gardiner, and we are pleased to learn that it was successful and that Mr. Hall is now doing well.

We also learn that Mrs. Jane E Willoughby of North Groton, N. H., who a few days since had a large encephaloid tumor weighing several pounds taken from her side by Dr. Shattuck, is rapidly recovering.

☞ The match game of Base Ball on Friday last, between the Dirigos of this city and the Passaconawakeags of Belfast for the junior championship, was one of the best contested of the season. The former club won the game, the score standing 39 to 32. At the close of the game the Dirigos were presented with a purse of money as a testimony of regard by some of our citizens. Another match game will be played on Friday 29th inst. in this city between the Dirigos and the North Stars of Portland.

THE HOT WEATHER. We have just passed through a season of extreme and unusually hot weather. During the nine days commencing with Sunday the 17th and ending with Monday the 25th inst., the thermometer marked not less than 75 degs. between nightfall and daylight, and ranged in the daytime between 84 and 100 degs. On Sunday the 17th, at noon, the mercury indicated 98 degs. in the shade, in this city, and on Sunday the 24th, 104 degs. Twice during this period, on Thursday 21st at noon, and Sunday night, the 23th, we were visited by refreshing thunder showers, which cleared the atmosphere, making the extreme heat which succeeded more endurable.

The heated term seems to have prevailed alike everywhere, at home and abroad, whether at the seaside, in the country or the city, and those who sought relief from its intensity by fleeing from home, have found it very much as the poor fish did who jumped from the frying-pan into the fire, none the less uncomfortable for the change. Those who were compelled to remain at home and keep at work, were after all quite as well off.

We receive accounts of much sickness caused by the protracted hot and dry weather. In this city there has been an unusual number of cases of typhoid fever and dysentry, both among children and adults, many of which have proved fatal. In the large cities especially, many cases of sunstroke have occurred. In New York alone more than a hundred and fifty deaths are reported from this cause alone

Vegetation is also suffering from the extreme drought. We have reports from every part of the State that the pastures are getting bare of feed, the growth of corn, grass and potatoes stopped, and the prospect for crops generally, which have promised so finely, is getting to be almost discouraging to the farmers A timely change in the weather, accompanied by a moderate amount of rain, would be very reviving to their hopes. As we write, the indications are favorable for rain—the sky is overcast with clouds, and the wind sets in the right direction We trust that the prayers and desires of everybody in this respect will be speedily answered.

RAILROAD MATTERS. The Portland *Press* says that a meeting of the Directors of the Maine Central Railroad was held in that city on Tuesday, 19th inst. Hon. W. H. Vinton and other prominent citizens of Gray appeared, urging the Directors to locate the new piece of road through Gray, arguing that it would bring to the road all the trade of Casco and Raymond. Three routes are proposed, the first from Danville Junction through Gray to Falmouth; the second from Danville through Gray to Cumberland; and last, from Danville, two and a half miles east of Gray, thence to Cumberland; whichever route decided upon to connect with the Portland & Kennebec. The Directors did not determine which route to adopt for the extension into Portland in consequence of one of the surveys not being fully completed, but directed the completion of the survey, and when finished that the President advertise for proposals on both lines. Upon receipt of the proposals the line will be determined.

We learn from the Bangor *Whig* that on Tuesday of this week the Directors of the Maine Central R. R. met in that city to go over their road to examine its condition and projected connections with the Portland & Kennebec Railroad and inspect their valuable property here. They will also visit the European and North American railroad, taking the cars as far as Mattawamkeag and returning on Thursday.

COMMENCEMENT AT WATERVILLE The arrangements for Commencement at Colby University next week, as far as completed, are as follows:

Sunday evening, July 31st—Sermon before the Boardman Missionary Society.

Monday, Aug 1st,—Junior Prize Declamation at the Baptist Church at 8 P. M.

Tuesday, Aug. 2d, will be devoted principally to the exercises attendant upon the semi-centennial anniversary of the college. At 9 A. M., there will be a meeting of the Alumni in the Memorial Hall when the general necrology of the institution will be presented by Prof. C. E Hamlin. President Chaplin will deliver a Historical Discourse at the Baptist Church at 11 A. M., after which the Alumni dinner will come off. In the evening the anniversary of the Literary Society will be held, but neither the Ocator nor the Poet has been engaged. The examination for admission also is on Tuesday.

Wednesday, Aug. 3d,—Commencement Day. Concert in the evening by the Germania Band assisted by Mrs. A. M. Smith of Boston.

☞ Col. DeWitt, the gentlemanly Superintendent of the A. & W. Sprague Company in this city, while awaiting orders for the commencement of operations for the reconstruction of the Dam, and the prosecution of the other important operations of the Company, has not been idle. A mess of the largest and handsomest Early Rose potatoes which we have seen this season, taken from his garden and brought by him into our office, attest his skill and success as a cultivator of the soil in addition to his scientific and business qualifications as an engineer and Superintendent. His garden on Court street is a model of careful and successful husbandry, comparing with the best of those which have had the advantage of the most assiduous and experienced methods of cultivation. It is well worthy a visit.

☞ The Bangor *Whig* tells of the return to that city of Mr. Samuel Mansell who had been absent nine years and was given up by his friends for dead. Mr. Mansell left Bangor in 1861 with the 2d Maine regiment, as teamster. After the battle of Bull Run, a large number of teamsters were discharged, among Mr. Mansell, and in a short time, his name was published in a list of men killed by the breaking down of a bridge. Hearing nothing from him, his friends of course supposed the report correct and have mourned him as dead until his unexpected return. It appears that he went West after his discharge, and has since been engaged in teaming on the plains. A short time ago, his party was attacked by Indians who ran off his stock, and killed his two companions, and being thus thrown out of business, he concluded to come to Bangor and look up his friends.

☞ Mrs. Livermore of Boston, one of the ablest and most eloquent lady writers and speakers in this country, will occupy the pulpit of the Winthrop street church on Sunday afternoon next. The public generally are invited to attend. In the morning of the same day she will preach in the Universalist church in Gardiner, and in the evening will deliver an address in aid of the Centenary movement in that city. Hon. E. F. Pillsbury and other speakers will also address the meeting.

☞ We understand that an earnest movement is being made by the members of the Unitarian Society in this city, having for its object the renovation and remodeling of their church corner of State street and Montgomery Place. It is in contemplation to remove the building from its present foundations to face the south, raise it and place under it a brick basement, and to finish the interior in an attractive modern style to compare with the best of the church edifices of the city. The estimated cost of these improvements is about $10,000.

☞ Our friend Jefferson Parsons, Esq, Steward of the Insane Hospital, who is among the best of our practical farmers, has laid upon our table a handsome Early Rose potato weighing 14 1-2 ounces. He says he planted four bushels of this variety about the last of April and ten bushels of the Early Blues, and that he shall harvest from the seed more bushels of the latter, which has always been the most popular of our early varieties of the potatoe.

☞ The popular Fairy Operetta "Laila," will be performed at Meonian Hall on Friday evening of the present week by a select chorus of thirty-five young ladies of this city, assisted in the instrumental department by Messrs. E. E Patterson and C. F. Berry. The whole under the direction of Mr. Wm. A. Packard as conductor and pianist. The operetta will be produced with appropriate costumes and scenery, and we are assured will be a performance worthy of the generous patronage of the community.

☞ The public may expect a great deal of pleasure from the dramatic and musical entertainment to be given on Thursday evening, the 28th, in Granite Hall, by our young friends, the Senior class of the Augusta High School. Give them a generous patronage.

THE SCANDINAVIAN IMMIGRANTS. The first installment of Scandinavian immigration to Maine has arrived at its destination in Arcostook County, under charge of Mr. Wm. W. Thomas, Jr., and have probably already entered upon the labors incident to their settlement in the new homes alloted to them by the state government. The editor of the Arcostook *Pioneer*, who met the immigrants on their arrival at St. John, and proceeded with them part of the way to Arcostook County, gives the following interesting sketch of his acquaintance with them:

On the first of May, Mr. Thomas sailed from New York, and arrived in Gothenburg, Sweden, the 16th, via England and the North Sea. He immediately set himself to work writing up the Arcostook and publishing letters in their own language, and distributing documents throughout the country. The result was, as might be expected, a rush to fill the colony, from which applications a selection of about one hundred men, women and children was made, fifty of whom got ready and started with Mr. T. for America, the 5th of June. Of this number there are about ten families complete, the remainder being heads of families who will prepare a home and send for their wives and children next spring. There are also several smart, intelligent young men who have formed an attachment for certain interesting members of other families, to whom in time they will no doubt become more closely connected.

One marked feature of these people is their complexion, which is light, nearly all of whom have blue eyes. Their unassuming politeness is worthy of note, even among the small children, who recognize the smallest favor by removing their hats and shaking their benefactor by the hand. The misses were observed reading books in their own native tongue, while one of the young men were engaged with "English without a Teacher." They are all anxious to obtain a knowledge of our language, being educated in their own.

These new citizens expect to reach, this week, their new houses and homes which the State has so generously provided, and which we doubt not they will appreciate, coming from a land bare only three months in the year, and where what little they *can* grow is destroyed by frost one year in three on an average, and when saved from frost, a large per cent is taken to support royalty and nobility. Their new houses, with all their improvements, are to be exempt from state taxation for five years from Jan. 1, 1871. Their trip up the river seems to have impressed them favorably, and the words of encouragement which they received along the route gave them an idea of the kindly reception awaiting them.

This "advance guard," of the first Swedish colony in Maine, having arrived, we hope and trust every encouragement will be offered which shall tend to render them contented. Great results are anticipated to follow this small beginning, which it is hoped is but a drop in the bucket. Forty or fifty more will come in September, and will be met in Halifax by Mr. Thomas. They pay their own passage and other expenses, and come to us in no sense as *paupers*. On the contrary many of them are in comfortable circumstances, with sufficient means to provide for their necessary wants till next year's harvest. They include mechanics of various trades in which they are well skilled.

We are assured that they are all honest, industrious and thrifty, inured to hardship and patient of labor. Some of them are men of influence and position in the country they have left. They seek homes and a place to work and live amongst us. Every one of them is a leading string to a hundred friends at home, and these strings will draw if this first colony is contented and prosperous. A school will be established among the colonists. The children are bright and active, and will readily take to English. Several of the adults are already good English scholars, which will facilitate the acquiring of our language by the others. We have no doubt there are many persons in this country, and perhaps some from abroad, who would be glad to contribute interesting books and magazines, which, as soon as they learn to read, will enable them to become familiar with our institutions.

A LIVING SKELETON. The Gardiner *Home Journal* of last week has the following:

The most emaciated individual we ever saw is now at the Togus Military Asylum. He had been brought there three days previous, and all declared that he looked much better than when he came. The photographs of the victims of Andersonville, that we used to see during the war, did not equal the terrible sight. This poor man has been sick six years; and was sent by the authorities of Middlebury, Vt., from the poor-house. To our indignant inquiry; "why did they send a man away in this condition?" the surgeon replied: "To save his funeral charges, I suppose." A man—no, a being accompanied him as far as Augusta, and then left him to be carried on the Asylum team, to the Asylum. The driver of the team, with more humanity, hired a coach to bring him over. The poor invalid said he had received more attention during the three days he had been at the Asylum, than for many months before. Talk about rebel atrocity after this! They were inhuman to their enemies, but here is a man who had fought for his native town—neglected as no dog of a person would neglect a sick dog! It makes our blood boil to think of it.

The Kennebec *Journal* says of him:

The name of this skeleton is Henry Clark of Middleboro', Vt. He was a member of the 7th Vermont Regiment and served his country in the war. After leaving the service, he found himself in poverty dependent upon public charity; and at last found a home, but as the result proved, a desperately poor one, in the alms-house in Middleton. He was a sick man, his lungs were diseased, but he says he did not receive any medical treatment for five months His bed was not made at one time for several weeks, the clothes not being changed during the period His case became known to Ex-Gov. Smyth of New Hampshire, who took him from this place of misery and had him sent to the asylum, where he is receiving kind treatment. He is a sight to behold—a living, breathing specimen of "man's inhumanity to man."

REPEAL OF THE TONNAGE TAX. On Friday last Secretary Boutwell issued a circular to Collectors and others, announcing the repeal of the tonnage tax on vessels engaged in the coasting trade and fisheries, and of special internal revenue tax on boats, barges and flats. This repeal was effected by the passage of the act to reduce internal taxes, approved July 14, and which amends the acts of 1862, so that no ship, vessel, steamer, boat, barge or flat belonging to any citizen of the United States, trading from a port or point within the United States, or employed in the bank, whale or other fisheries, shall hereafter be subject to the tonnage tax or duty provided for in said acts and the proviso in section 103 of the Internal Revenue Act of June 30, 1864. In accordance with the above provision of law no tonnage tax could be legally exacted after the 14th inst., and Collectors are therefore instructed to abstain from its collection on receipt of the circular, and all applications for refunding of moneys so paid from and after the 14th inst. will be forwarded with report thereon to the Secretary of Treasury.

CARMEL ITEMS. Our agent, Mr. S. I. Small, writing us from Carmel under date of Monday 25th, says:

Yesterday was, with us, the hottest day of the season. Thermometer 100 in the shade. A destructive fire has been raging in Stetson on timber land owned by Hathorn & Son, A. Burnett and others. The shower of last night checked the flames somewhat, but the strong breeze of to-day must start them up again.

Crops are forward, but now suffering from the severe drouth.

Did you ever use a clothes-wringer for shelling peas? If not, then try it some time and you will never shell them with your fingers again. I am not aware who discovered this new use for the machine; I saw it first at the store of C. K. & E. E. Johnson, and if any two think they can make better time shelling a peck of that kind of grain than did Johnson and I with a Sherman wringer, let them try it.

THE INTERNATIONAL YACHT RACE. The ocean race between the English yacht Cambria and the American yacht Dauntless, was won by the former. The Cambria passed Sandy Hook at 3:45 P. M. of the 27th, 28 days and 5 hours from Old Kinsale Head, and one hour and ten minutes in advance of the Dauntless. The Dauntless lost two men overboard during the passage, and was delayed two hours and a half in an ineffectual attempt to save them. A number of tugs and yachts gaily decorated went down to the Cambria from the city and hearty congratulations were exchanged with the victors.

☞ The annual College regatta took place on Lake Quinsigamond, near Worcester, Mass., on Friday last. The single scull two-mile race was won by J. J. O'Leary of Worcester, Mass., in 16:11½; the four-oared race was undecided owing to a foul claimed by the Freshmen. The race between the crews from Harvard, Yale, Amherst and Brown was won by the latter—distance three miles in 19:21 seconds. In the University race the Yale crew came in first, in 18:45, but the referees decided the race in favor of the Harvards on account of a foul by the Yales at the stake-boat by which the Harvards lost a rudder.

BOSTON CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC, Julius Eichberg director. The fall term of this celebrated music school begins Monday, Sept. 12th. This conservatory limits each class to four pupils only, and each pupil is entitled to free lessons in singing at sight, theory and harmony. The pipe organ of the Boston Conservatory is at the free disposal of the pupils. The concerts, lectures, etc., are also free to the pupils and their friends.

Editor's Table.

THE AUGUST MAGAZINES.—The *Atlantic* has the continuation of "Joseph and his Friends," by Bayard Taylor; another of Mrs. Stowe's "Oldtown Fireside Stories"; "The French Claims, by E. H. Derby, with some interesting "Memories of Dickens"; while Bayard Taylor, Trowbridge, and C. P. Cranch, contribute each a beautiful and characteristic poem. Published by Fields, Osgood & Co., Boston.

The *Galaxy* contains some excellent stories, with an interesting variety of other articles, among which are a chapter on "American Timidity"; "Diplomatic Incidents" by Thurlow Weed; a sketch of "Bulwer Lytton" by Justine McCarthy, and a comparison of "The Styles of D'Israeli and Dickens." Instead of the usual agricultural article for this month, Mark Twain sends a comical specimen of his first attempt at heroic verse, and a picture of himself that makes a good frontispiece for the magazine. Published by Sheldon & Co., New York.

GODEY'S LADY'S BOOK, is as as attractive and readable as usual. The frontispiece, "Going Home" is a charming picture of rural life, while the colored fashion plate, extension sheet, patterns, and wood engravings are all perfect in design and execution. Published by L. A. Gordey, Philadelphia.

OUR YOUNG FOLKS is in rich stories, poems and others entertaining reading for the juveniles, attractively illustrated and altogether making a number of unusual merit. Mrs. Whitney's interesting home story, "We Girls," is continued, also another instructive talk with the Professor, &c. Published by Fields, Osgood & Co., Boston.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS. Oliver Optic's Magazine for July contains the opening chapters of "Plane and Plank; or The Mishaps of a Mechanic," the second of Oliver Optic's new "Onward and Upward Series;" excellent stories, including "*Pierre Pierrette*," a beautiful translation from the French, letters from Oliver Optic, puzzles, four full-page pictures, and other illustrations, poetry sketches, and a great variety of useful and entertaining matter. Published in weekly and monthly editions by Lee & Shepard, Boston, at $2,50 a year.

The Riverside is filled with the usual admirable variety of reading and illustrations for the young people with whom it has become a well established favorite. The number for August contains articles from the best writers for the entertainment of children—among them Hans Christian Anderson, Elith May, Porte Crayon, P. Cranch, Arthur Gilman, and Jacob Abbott—an array of talent which has no superior in any other magazine of its class in this or any other country. Published by Hurd & Houghton, Riverside, Cambridge, Mass. Terms $2,50 per annum.

The Transatlantic Magazine the first number of the second volume of which is received, is a handsomely printed and illustrated monthly of 128 pages, containing selections from foreign current literature, upon a plan similar to the Eclectic Magazine, and in every way showing excellent taste and judgment in the range and character of the articles selected. It embodies the cream of the lighter literature of the day and we have no doubt receives a handsome patronage from the large class of readers for whose benefit it is published. T. R. Hamersly & Co., publishers. Terms $4.00 per annum.

Arthur's Home Magazine comes freighted with its usual store of good things, and welcome as ever. The table of contents is rich in entertaining reading and the illustrations beautiful, while the fullness and variety of the fashion and needlework department is unsurpassed. Published by T. S. Arthur & Sons, Philadelphia.

SUICIDE OF THE FRENCH MINISTER M. Prevost Paradol, the new French Minister who arrived at Washington from France week before last, and was received by the President on Saturday, committed suicide Wednesday morning at one o'clock by shooting himself with a pistol. He had been very busy since his arrival, and on Tuesday his mind seemed to be wandering, though he continued to give attention to business during the afternoon. The only cause which can be assigned for his rash act is that he was laboring under temporary insanity produced by unusual fatigue and the intense heat.

M. Paradol shot himself in his sleeping chamber and the circumstances show that the act was premeditated. The inmates of the house at the time were his house-keeper and a French serving man. The woman heard the report of the pistol and rushed to the room, where she found Paradol lying dead on the floor, bleeding from the left breast, the ball having entered immediately over the heart. The weapon used was a small single-barrel breech-loading Colt's pistol, found on the floor under him. He walked out Tuesday and purchased a pair of these pistols. The other was found on his bureau with a cartridge beside it.

It was not known that M. Paradol had killed himself until after daylight, as the servants were timid about going on the street at night in a strange city. The body was embalmed and prepared for burial.

M. Paradol had prepared himself for bed, but had evidently remained up for sometime meditating suicide. He had nothing on but his night clothes and apparently stood facing the fire-place, near the centre of the room, when he discharged the pistol. The body was found lying on the back with one leg drawn up and the left arm outstretched above his head.

The funeral of the deceased Minister took place on Friday morning in St. Mathews Catholic Church. Baron Gerolt, the Prussian Minister, attended the funeral, together with the attaches of all other foreign legations in Washington; also the Cabinet Ministers, Gen. Sherman and Admiral Porter in uniform, Senators Cameron and Stockton and other prominent gentlemen. The ceremonies commenced with a solemn requiem mass, a portion of "de profundi" was read, and Father White delivered a funeral address of nearly thirty minutes, paying an earnest tribute to the past greatness of the distinguished dead in the field of science and journalism. At the conclusion of the address the remains were borne to the depot and conveyed to New York, where they were placed on board the steamship Lafayette on Friday night. His son and daughter returned on the same steamer and it was desired by the Consul General to keep them in ignorance of their father's remains being on board which prevented all ceremony there. The children are not aware that he committed suicide.

THE RIGHTS OF NEUTRALS. The French *Journal Official* on Saturday last contained the following declaration:

The French government has issued orders that in the prosecution of the war the commanders of the French forces will scrupulously regard with respect to neutral powers the rules of international right, and that they especially conform to the principles of the declaration of the Paris Congress of 1866, as follows: Privateering is abolished. A neutral flag protects an enemy's merchandise except contraband of war. The merchandise of neutrals except contraband of war is not seizable under a foreign flag. A blockade must be effective. Although Spain and the United States did not adhere to the declaration of 1866, French vessels will not seize the property of the enemy when such property is the cargo of a Spanish or an American vessel, provided it is not contraband of war. France will no longer claim the right to confiscate the property of Americans or Spaniards found on board vessels of the enemy.

GREAT FIRE IN PHILADELPHIA—NINE FIREMEN KILLED. The sugar refinery of Newhall, Boyce & Co., seven stories high, filled with valuable machinery and a large stock of refined sugars, was burned on Tuesday night last. During the fire the rear walls fell on an adjoining building, crushing it and carrying down nine firemen, all of whom are believed to be killed. All the surrounding buildings were much damaged. The total loss is estimated at half a million.

☞ The following professors of the new Freewill Baptist Theological School at Lewiston have been elected: Rev. John Fullerton, D. D., Rev. J. Butler, D. D., Prof. B. F. Hayes, transferred to Theological School for one year. Rev. J. A Howe, to take seat in one year. The first term of the Theological School will open Sept. 15th. The faculty of the School will consist of Rev. Dr. Cheney, and the above named Professors.

☞ Maj. Dill of Phillips informs us that Eugene Shepard, a lad of the village, 16 years of age broke his leg last week by being thrown from a horse he was riding to water.

☞ At the Republican Congressional Convention for the fifth district held at Ellsworth last week, Hon. Eugene Hale was nominated as candidate for re-election by acclamation.

Items of State News.

The Lewiston *Journal* says a young lady in that city, who has been accustomed to wearing a bamboo switch, complained of a disagreeable sensation pervading the back of her head. Upon examination, live creatures, resembling fleas, but about twice their length, were found in her scalp. Her hair was immediately cut close, and a physician consulted for advice in the matter. He at once decided that the difficulty was caused by wearing the chignon, from which the creatures proceeded. A place on her scalp as large as the palm of one's hand was eaten like a honeycomb. Several other similar cases are reported in the vicinity, one or two, it is said, fatal. No little excitement is created in consequence, and a rapid decline in chignons is inevitable.

The Bangor *Whig* is informed that Mr. John Jackson, of Alfred, a student at the State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts at Orono, was drowned while bathing in the Stillwater river at that place on Tuesday evening. Mr. Jackson was about twenty-six years of age, and a man of much promise. His scientific attainments are spoken of as remarkable, considering the limited oportunities he had in early life for obtaining an education.

Mrs. Thomas Hancock, of Gray, has left her estate to her mother with reversion to the Portland Natural History Society. It is estimated at $10,000 value, says the *Press*.

The Lewiston *Journal* says that work is being pushed on the gymnasium and chapel of Bates College, and both will be completed before the beginning of the term. The chapel is to be finished in panel, with black walnut and chestnut, and will contain 68 pews.

The barn and house of C. H. & D. Burrell, in Turner, were struck by lightening and consumed on Sunday night. Fourteen tons of hay, two horses, a hundred bushels of potatoes and part of the household furniture were lost, the Lewiston *Journal* says. Loss about $5000, insured for $1400.

A party of gentlemen of Lewiston have purchased Squirrel Island, off Boothbay harbor, as a place of summer resort. It contains 125 acres of valuable land, and they propose to build a wharf and put up a building for their accommodation in the summer. The price paid was $2200.

The *Whig's* Belfast correspondent says that Miss Helen M. Smith, a young lady of about 18 years of age, committed suicide last Monday afternoon, by taking arsenic. She lived in great agony till Wednesday night when death relieved her sufferings. She was from Massachusetts on a visit to her friends in Belfast, where the deed was committed. Her body was sent home by Friday's boat. The reason for the sad act is unknown.

We see it stated that Dr. A. C. Hamlin of Bangor has been notified by the Surgeon General that, in case the European war is continued, he will be appointed a Special Commissioner of the U. S. Government to examine and report upon the hospital and medical systems of the armies engaged.

At the Portsmouth Company's mills in South Berwick last week, the workmen discovered in one of the bales from North Carolina a villanous torpedo, in the shape of a bottle filled with explosive and dangerous material, with a percussion attached, ready to explode on being struck. Had the infernal machine gone into the picker, the destruction of property, if not of life, would have been great.

A correspondent writes the Lewiston *Journal* that the buildings on the Poor Farm in Rumford, were burned Tuesday noon, together with one yoke of oxen, two hogs and two pigs. The fire caught in the barn.

The *Chronicle* says on Thursday last, the petitioners for an injunction on issuing the bonds authorized by Farmington Village Corporation to aid the Androscoggin Railroad Company in the work of extending their road to this village, had a hearing before Judge Barrows. A temporary injunction was refused, and the case made up for the decision of the full Court now in session at Portland.

An eleven year old girl in Corinth manages a mowing machine with all the ease of a born farmer. This year she prepared the ground, planted the seed and now has a quarter-acre of as fine corn growing, as can be found in the county. She handles a horse as well as a jockey, and in all farm work seems to be at home.

Capt. C. H. Littlefield, marine reporter of the Bangor *Whig*, was

THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

Foreign News.

War Movements in Europe.

The Official Declaration of War.

PARIS July 20. In the Corps Legislatif to-day M. Grammont announced that war had been declared with Prussia and her allies in the following words: The exposse presented to you on the 15th inst. made known the cause we have for war against Prussia. According to the rules and usages of nations and by the order of the Emperor, I have requested the Charge d'Affairs at Berlin to notify the Cabinet of Prussia of our resolution to seek with arms the guarantees we could not obtain by discussion. This has been done, and I have the honor to make known to the Corps Legislatif that in consequence thereof a state of war exists since the 19th between France and Prussia. This declaration applies to the allies of Prussia who give her armed assistance.

An American resident here, Dr. Evans, has given 10,000 francs to the Society to aid the wounded soldiers of France.

Hostilities not yet Begun.

The deputies from the departments of the upper and lower Rhine, Moselle, and Meurthe, are kept well informed by telegraph of the movements of the army, and they state that no important conflict has yet taken place. There have been some skirmishes between the patrol and custom officers, but no blood shed. The Emperor did not come to Paris to-day. He received the Ministers and answered dispatches at St. Cloud.

The King of Prussia's Speech.

BERLIN, July 20. King William in his speech said Prussia had no interest in the selection of the Prince Hohenzollern for the Spanish throne except that it might bring peace to a friendly people. It had nevertheless furnished the Emperor of the French with a pretext for war unknown to diplomacy; and scorning peace he had indulged in language to Germany which could only have been prompted by the misunderstanding of her strength. Germany was powerful enough to resent such language and repel such violence. He said so in all reverence, knowing that the event was in God's hands. He had fully weighed the responsibility which rested on a man who drives into war and havoc two great and tranquil nations yearning for peace and the enjoyment of the common blessings of christian civilization and prosperity and for contests more salutary than those of blood. Those who rule France have shrewdly studied the proper methods of hitting the sensitive pride of that great neighbor nation, and to promote their interests have misguided it. Then concluded the King: As our fathers before us have done let us fight for our liberty and our rights against wrongs inflicted by a foreign conquerer; and as he was with our fathers, so God will be with us in a struggle without which Europe can never enjoy lasting peace.

PARIS, July 20. The warlike enthusiasm in France is unabated. A rich merchant of Mulhouse has offered to equip 5000 volunteers and supply them with rations during the war. The deputies in the Corps Legislatif sign liberal subscriptions for the wounded.

The Bourse is growing weaker; rentes continue to decline, and are now quoted at 65 francs. No fighting on sea or land has yet been reported.

Financial Panic in Liverpool.

LONDON, July 20. The Liverpool markets yesterday were utterly prostrated. Nothing was ever known like the commercial depression. Many men worth £100,000 sterling a day or two ago, are bankrupt to-day.

4 P. M. It is rumored that a collision took place this morning near Forbach, between the French and Prussian advanced guards. Nothing further is known of the affair, and some doubt is cast on the report as advices from Paris to-day are positive that there has been no fighting.

Earl Granville reports that the determined and absolute refusal of the Emperor Napoleon to entertain negotiations, render it probable that any attempts to renew them will be useless until a great battle has been fought.

No Change in the Situation.

LONDON, July 21.—The dates from Paris up to noon to-day say that no news of any engagem nt had been received there. France has made some important concessions to German merchantmen now in French ports, or which may come hereafter, not knowing of the declaration of war. These concessions will be made public immediately.

Commercial Regulations.

PARIS, July 21.—The *Journal Official* announces that people of States allied with Prussia now in France or French colonies shall be permitted to remain so long as their conduct furnishes no cause for complaint. The admission from this date to France of the subjects of Prussia or the allied States will be subject to a special permission given only exceptionally. In regard to vessels of commerce belonging to the enemy, the following rules will be observed to such as are now in French ports or which may enter the said ports in ignorance of war: A delay of thirty days will be granted for their departure, and safe conduct will be given them until their arrival at their destination or at the ports to which they belong. Vessels having shipped cargoes for France on account of French parties before the declaration of war are not liable to capture, and may safely discharge their cargoes and load with others in the ports of the Empire, after which they will receive safe conduct to the ports to which they belong.

La Liberte reports that the Prussian troops massed between Treves and Saarbruck have fallen back to concentrate between the fortresses of Coblentz and Mayence.

A Skirmish on the Frontier.

BERLIN, July 21.—A squad of 200 French soldiers crossed the frontier Tuesday on a reconnoisance but were made prisoners after a skirmish. None were killed. War preparations are actively going on. The entire army is mobilized. The artillery is going to the frontier.

The Demands of France.

It is officially stated that the demands of France gave Prussia no alternative but refusal. France demanded a pledge of the Government that no German should ever ascend the Spanish throne; that one of the Hohenzollern princes reside permanently in Paris as a hostage or a heavy amount of money be deposited in France, to be forfeited if the pledge was broken, or that the Danish provinces be given over to French keeping and held therein until the death of the last Prince of Hohenzollern.

The *Sigmaringen*, the official gazette, declares that before the war closes Germany and Europe will exact from France guarantees for the observance of peace hereafter, and in case of refusal will so cripple France as to prevent her making any more mischief.

The Position of the other Powers.

BRUSSELLS, July 21.—The council of ministers at Vienna yesterday announced that Austria should maintain the position of a watchful neutrality. The Austrian government is buying horses and accumulating supplies. Her ulterior policy is dependant on that of the Czar.

The rumors of Russia's intention of joining Prussia gain greater confidence hourly. Couriers left today with dispatches for the cabinet of Austria and Italy. It is believed that the Emperor demands the fulfillment by those powers of the agreements already made to stand by France.

LONDON, July 21.—In the House of Commons tonight Mr. Gladstone said Russia and Austria had used every effort with Prussia and France to preserve peace. He was unable to state what Prussia might have expected from the withdrawal of Prince Leopold, and had no knowledge of a treaty between France and Denmark. He was sorry to say that all the correspondence in the foreign office on the proposition of a mutual disarmament of the nations of Europe was not ready for publication, but some papers on the subject would be submitted on Friday. He had no doubt of the neutrality of Holland, Belgium and Luxemburg.

The Affair at Forbach—Other Skirmishes.

LONDON, July 22.—The details of the affair at Forbach, variously reported as a battle and a skirmish between the customs patrol, published to-day, state that two regiments of French Huzzars and a body of Urlaner German troops, commonly armed with lances, met on the frontier. The French troops immediately made preparations to receive an attack. At length one of the Urlaners came forward and the French allowed him to approach, regarding him as a deserter expecting a parley. On coming near the Urlaner fired at the commander of the French, missed his mark, then turned and fled amid a shower of bullets.

PARIS, July 22—6 P. M. —The evening journals report that there were several skirmishes yesterday between the advance guards along the line of the frontier, but give no details. It is extremely difficult to obtain intelligence from the seat of war, as correspondents are strictly forbidden from approaching the army. The authorities of Strasburg no longer permit strangers to ascend the steeple of the Cathedral because the movements of the troops on both sides can be seen from that point. Quarters are prepairing for the Emperor and staff at Strasburg. The number of volunteers who have enlisted for the war is 97,000.

Address of Corps Legislatif to the Emperor.

The Emperor came to Paris to-day and received the corps legislatif at the Tuilleries. President Schneider, in the name of the corps legislatif addressed the Emperor as follows, Sir:—The corps legislatif has terminated its labors. It has unanimously voted all subsidies and all the laws needed for the national defence, thus giving a signal proof of its patriotism. If it is true that he who declares war but he who causes it is the real author, there will be but one voice among the nations to lay the responsibility upon Prussia who, maddened by unhoped for successes and encouraged by our patience and desire to preserve for Europe the benefits of peace, has conspired against our security and attacked our honor. In such a case France knows her duty and her ardent hopes follow you to the army, of which, accompanied by your son, you take command. Behind you and behind our army so accustomed to carry the high standard of France is the nation. Remit without uneasiness the regency to your august spouse. She will unite with the authority her great qualities to insure the force given by the liberal institutions inaugurated by you. The heart of the nation is with you and the army.

The Emperor replied as follows: Messieurs—I experience great satisfaction on the eve of my departure for the army in being able to thank you for tan patriotic co-operation you have given my government. War is legitimate when it is made with the assent of the country and the approbation of its representatives. You are right in recalling the words of Montesquens. The true author of a war is not he who declares it, but he who renders it necessary. We have done all that depends on us to avoid it and I may say that the entire nation, in its irresistable force, has dictated our resolutions.—I confide to you, in parting, the Empress, who will call you around her should circumstances require. She knows how to fill courageously the duty which the position imposes. I take with me the duty which the position imposes. I take with me my son. He will learn in the midst of the army how to serve his country. Resolved to pursue with energy the great mission confided to me, I have faith in the success of our arms, for I know that France is standing behind me and that God protects me.

The French Declaration of War.

BERLIN July 24.—The only written document which Prussia has received from France since the beginning of the quarrel reached Berlin at 1.30 on Tuesday last, and was a declaration of war. It declared that the Emperor of the French is obliged to consider the proposal to elevate a Prussian prince to the throne of Spain an attack on the security of France, and desires that Prussia disavow the scheme. That Prussia refused to do, reserving her right to be governed by circumstances. The Emperor says he is forced to consider this determination as equally menacing to France and European equilibrium and particularly as it was rendered more significant by a communication made by Prussia to the Cabinets of Europe, giving an account of the refusal to receive the French Ambassador. The paper concludes as follows: The French government therefore is justified in its taking steps in defence of honor and injured interests, and having adopted all measures which the circumstances render necessary, considers itself at war with Prussia.

Neutrality of Italy, Russia and Austria.

FLORENCE, July 23.—A proclamation announcing the strict neutrality of Italy in the pending war was issued to-day at Florence. Large demonstrations have been made in Milan, Padua and Genoa in favor of Prussia.

Dispatches from St. Petersburg, dated yesterday, declare that Russia will maintain her neutrality.

PARIS, July 24.—The *Official Journal* of Austria says the government having exhausted all the means of mollifying Napoleon and preventing war, has resolved to observe a strict neutrality, but at the same time keep a careful watch for the chance of successful settlement.

PARIS, July 23.—Denmark has decided on war. She will wait until the French fleet enters the Baltic. She will wait until the French fleet enters the Baltic. *Forbach, Department of Mosselle, July 23.*—The Prussians have been repulsed at Carling and a reconnoisance on Prussian soil has been made by the French troops.

A Prussian force from Saralis crossed the French border on Saturday to make a reconnoisance in the direction of St. Axolt and Metz. After proceeding some distance they had a brisk skirmish with a force of French chasseurs. The Prussians retired leaving two men on the field. It is believed the French lost ten or twelve killed. It is confidentially stated that the Prussians are strengthening Coblenetz only with the intention of making it a base of operations, and they intend to throw a force down the line of the Saar and carry on offensive war in France.

LONDON, July 24.—Up to this hour no news has been received of any engagement at the seat of war. Prussian vessels are cruising in the Channel and North Sea to intercept supplies of coal for the French fleet.

Various Items of War Movements.

PARIS, July 25.—The journals of Metz say that the French have taken forty prisoners thus far.

The *Journal Official* this morning publishes a decree closing the session of the Senate and Corps Legislatif. The *Journal* has several other official declarations; one is touching the inviolability of neutrality of neighboring powers, and another in regard to strengthening the fortifications of France.

It is reported to-day that the Empress has gone to Cherbourg to visit the fleet. She will go to the front about Thursday.

Information from various sources strengthen the impression that the Prussians will retire to the Rhine.

The French base of operations extends from Strasbourg to Thionville. The centre is between Bitsche and St. Avolt. The second line at Metz is capable of expansion to the centre and to Thionville. Up to this hour no report of any general engagement has been received here.

4 P. M.—No report of a battle has yet been received and none is expected for some days.

LONDON, July 25 —It is expected that the French fleet will attack Kiel. Eleven French frigates steering east, passed Hastings to-day.

Advance of the Prussians.

CORELENTZ, July 25 —At 4 o'clock on Sunday morning a force of 300 Prussians crossed the line near Saarguenninis, 4 miles from Metz, and after encountering small scattering parties of French chasseurs the Prussians took up a position and sent out flying detachments along the railroad uniting Strasbourg with St. Avolt, which tore up the rails and blew up the viaduct and did considerable other damage.—The Prussian force then returned to Saarebruck.

The Skirmish of Saturday.

LONDON, July 25.—In the affair at Carling on Saturday, where the Prussian reconnoitering party crossed the frontier and were encountered and repulsed by a detachment of French Chasseurs, the Paris papers claim that the Prussians lost two killed and fifteen wounded, while the chasseurs had only five men slightly wounded.

The following dispatches have just been received here from Sarbruck by the way of Berlin: On Sunday a body of Prussians crossed the frontier near Sarbruck. They penetrated the country for several miles and found the French in considerable force near the town of Gersweiler, where a sharp skirmish ensued. The French soon retired leaving ten killed and wounded on the field. There was no loss on the Prussian side. This action has demonstrated that the needle gun is superior to the Chessepot.

Subsequently a company of Prussians of the 17th regiment captured the French Custom House at Schrecklingen. The officers of the Custom House made a stout resistance and were all either killed or captured. One Prussian officer was slightly wounded. Deserters are continually coming into Prussian lines.

The Franco-Prussian Treaty--Its Reception in England.

The secret treaty which was projected between France and Prussia monopolizes the attention here of the public press and Parliament. Intense indignation is manifested at the duplicity of the powers concerned. The action of Napoleon is considered as insulting to England. Complete ignorance of the negotiation is professed at the French Embassy here.

A dispatch from Brussells states that the account of the treaty projected between France and Prussia which was published in the London *Times* this morning is perfectly authentic. The Belgian government knew of its existence a short time ago.

Important Movement of Troops.

LONDON, July 25.—The special correspondent of the New York *Tribune* writes from Metz on the 22d inst., describing the movements of troops at that place. There were 10,000 soldiers at Forbach, 7000 at St., Avolt and 3000 at Sarguemines. There is a large cavalry camp at Thionville, which protects the left of the French army. This force will be increased to 40,000. The 1st division of the 3d corps is commanded by Gen. Symonds and comprises the 18th battalion of chasseurs and the 59th, 62nd, 81st and 59th regiments of the line. This division marched out on the morning of the 23d, and by this time is at Bonlay, on the road to Sarlois. The Imperial guard is reported to be on the way to Metz, but their probable destination is Nancy. Bavarian videttes have already been seen with the Prussians. This fact is important. It shows that Prussian and South German forces are completely blended, and that the Prussians have Bavarian cavalry, which is superior to their own. It is confidently affirmed here that the Prussians are retiring and concentrating between Mayence and Coblentz. Many arrests are made daily.

The military chest arrived this morning—All the money is in gold, which shows that the French intend to quit their territory immediately and carry on the campaign where French notes will not be taken.

Great importance is attached to the gunboats, which will be used as they were in the American war, and will act on the Rhine and Moselle, and possibly on the Saarsbould. The Prussians deload that stream. Each gunboat carries one heavy gun manned by 12 men. It is believed that the Prussians have no gunboats.

The Paris correspondent of the *Tribune* writes under date of the 25th inst. that the Emperor was expected to leave quietly for the front last night, but he did not go. His departure will probably be delayed some days. It is certain that he is ill.

Denmark's Proclamation of Neutrality.

COPENHAGEN, July 26.—The Government of Denmark has issued a proclamation of neutrality in the war between Prussia and France. Sailors and pilots, subjects of Denmark, are warned against rendering assistance to the beligerents.

PARIS, July 26. The Empress when at Cherburg read to the sailors of the fleet an address from the Emperor which says: Though not among you my thoughts follow you to those seas where your valor will be displayed. The French navy has a glorious history and you will be worthy of its past. When in front of the enemy remember that France is with you and calls the protection of heaven upon your arms While you fight on the sea your bretheren fight on the land for the same cause. Go and show with pride the national standard. When they see it the enemy will know it enfolds the honor and the genius of France.

After delivering the above address the Empress was overcome with emotion. The effect of her visit to the fleet is said to be great.

La Liberte announces that the *Journal Official* will publish to-morrow the correspondence between the French and Italian governments, in which the first steps were taken for the solution of the question of the occupation of Rome. *La Liberte* promises that the documents will create a sensation, and they show that the Italian Government has not even asked for the withdrawal of the French troops, but France has taken the initiative to that end.

Another Cavalry Skirmish.

LONDON, July 26.—The French report another cavalry skirmish near Metz and claim that the Prussians were beaten and lost three officers.

The *Globe* to-day speaking of the projected secret treaty says it embodies the propositions made at the close of the war of 1866. Its publication at the present moment is consequently unfair and mischievous.

French Troops at the Frontier.

A special dispatch from Strasburg received to-day says that the elite of the French army is now concentrated at Strasburg and Belfast. The Algerian forces, consisting of Zouaves and Turcos, and filling 18 railway trains, reached Strasburg on the 24th, and to-day took up their position at Belfast, close to the Baden line. Sixteen squadrons of chasseurs de Afrique arrived to-day via Lyons.

Dispatches from Thionville, Sierck, St. Avold, Metz and Bitche state that the army has commenced to move to the frontier. The Imperial Guard has already started, and it is now regarded as certain that the emperor designs closing in on the Prussians between Thionville and Weisberg, throwing the army under MaMahon on the German side of the Rhine. This army is composed of three corps commanded by Gens. Failly, Duay and McMahon.

A force of 8000 marines under command of Gen. De Nassaigne accompany the Baltic fleet. An attack is to be made on Strasbund immediately, north of Berlin. France denies the authority of the secret treaty said to have been offered to Prussia.

The French Position and Plans.

The special correspondent of the *Tribune* at Metz on Sunday night sent the following very important letter containing the first clear statement of the French positions and plans: "I left Hogenenon on the 23d, taking the train by the line which leads past Bitche and Garrequennines to Metz. Along this line warlike preparations of every kind were to be seen. I passed field batteries parked complete at the different shunting places until I was tired looking at them. Although the French carry their infantry and artillery a good deal over the railways they seem inclined to allow the cavalry to march along the roads. I saw more than a single party of horsemen and in one case a whole regiment walking along the highway, which just before were arrived at the Vosges run parallel with the rails. The regiment in the highest spirits.

About 4 o'clock we reached the Vosges. This range of hills, which takes its rise near Belfort, runs tolerably parallel with the Rhine until it slopes down to the low lands about Coblentz and Mayence, where the Stra-bourg, Bitche and Mentz lines pierce the range. As a military obstacle the Vosges have always been considered the second line of defence possessed by France on the east. Still the thinness of the range, the breadth of which near Bitche is near twenty-five miles, and the large numbers of valleys which cross it in a traverse direction, prevent it from forming a very considerable military obstacle. There is a society called the France Tireurs of the Vosges, which on a small scale bears some resemblance to our volunteers.

The Feeling in Prussia.

BERLIN, July 26. The provincial correspondence says the rapid and vast preparations for war extinguish all feeling of inquietude caused by the boasted readiness of the French to take the initiative and will, it is hoped, save the Prussian soil from a calamitous war.

PARIS, July 26. The *Moniteur de Soirs* says it learns from a good source that Prince Leopold of Hohonzollern and his father are in bad odor at Berlin on account of their renunciation of the Spanish throne It adds that Count Bismark had reproached them for their precipitate action, which enabled Spain to keep clear of the quarrel and permits France to place more troops on the Rhine, as there is no need to watch Spain.

THE NEW REVENUE TAX LAW AND TARIFF. The tax and tariff bill as it passed Congress is expected to reduce the burden of taxation about eighty million dollars It abolishes all taxes on gross receipts, legacies, successions, watches, carriages, gold and silver plate, billiard tables, passports, salaries, banks and bankers; the whole system of special or license taxes except those on brewers and distillers, and all taxes on sales except those now paid by stamps and those on sales of leaf and manufactured tobacco, snuff, cigars, wines and liquors. It also abolishes the stamp act on all receipts, transfers of mortgage, notes for less than $100, and canned and preserved fish. The taxes that remain are those excepted as herein noted as well as the present taxes on spirits, tobacco, gas, fermented liquors, bank deposits, capital and circulation, income tax and stamp taxes, except as abolished. Special taxes do not cease until next May, taxes on sales not until October, and the others that are abolished expire on the first of August. The income tax will be collected but two years more, and at the rate of 2 1-2 per cent, with $2000 exemption. The tax on the salaries of government officials ceases the 1st of August, and the difference to that date between 5 and 2 1-2 per cent. is to be deducted next spring.

In social or religious communities five persons are to be counted as a family. The publication of income returns is positively prohibited. Two and one-half per cent tax is laid on dividends of incorporated banks, trust companies, savings institutions, and all insurance, railroad, steamboat canal, turnpike, slackwater, gas, coal, mining, bridge and manufacturing companies, whether payable to citizens or non-residents. The interest allowed to depositors in savings banks is not to be called a dividend

The new Tariff rates go into effect on the 31st of next December. The principal items are tea 15 cents a pound, coffee 3 cents, substitutes for coffee 5 cents, sugars from 1 3/4 to 4 cents, being about 25 per cent. below present rates. Corsets $2 a dozen when valued at $6 a dozen or less, and 30 per cent. ad valorem. Flax straw $4 a ton. Unhressed flax $20, dressed flax $40, hemp $55, jute $15, jute butts $6, cotton bagging 2 cents a pound, pig iron $7 a ton; cast scrap iron $6; wrought scrap iron $6; Bessemer steel 1 1/4 cent a pound; railway bars made in part of steel 1 cent; hair cloth for seating 40 cents a square yard when eighteen inches wide, and 30 cents when less than that width; crinoline cloth 30 per cent. ad valorem; hair pins 50 per cent. ad valorem; silk buttons or dress ornaments 50 per cent. ad valorem; nickle 30 cents a pound, nickle alloys 20 cents, German silver and other mixed metals 45 per cent. ad valorem, live stock 20 per cent. ad valorem, oranges and lemons 20 per cent., pine apples, &c., 10 per cent., neatsfoot oil and all animal, whale, seal and fish oils 20 per cent., linseed 20 cents a bushel, linseed oil 30 cents a gallon, rape seed oil 1 cent a pound, raw opium $1 a pound; smoking opium $6 a pound; morphia and its salts, $1 an ounce; cotton thread, yarns, warps, or warp yarn, not wound upon spools whether single or advanced beyond the condition of single by twisting one or more yarns together, whether in beams or in bundles, skeins or cops, or in any other form, valued at not exceeding 40 cents a pound, ten cents a pound—valued at over 40 cents and not exceeding 60 cents a pound, 20 cents a pound, valued at over 60 cents a pound and not exceeding 80 cents a pound, 30 cents a pound,—valued at over 80 cents a pound, 40 cents a pound,—and in addition to said rates of duty 20 per cent ad valorem. There is an increase of duty on various spices, and a new classification with increased rates on foreign wines and cordials of all kinds. The free list is greatly enlarged and goes through about as it came from Mr. Schenck's committee some weeks ago. Steam plough machinery comes in free for two years. Tonnage duties on vessels owned by our own citizens are abolished, as are also duties on boats, barges and flats.

THE ADVANCE MOWER. *To the Editor of the Maine Farmer:* I notice an article in your paper of the 23d signed by one E. P. Curtis, which calls for a reply. We would say to him and all his agents, the maker of the $2090 offer for a mower possessing all the good qualities of the *Advance*, is perfectly responsible for the offer. We are glad he refers to the Amherst Trial, we will do so. You will see by the report that the *Advance* cut its half acre in 19 and a half minutes and did not choke or clog once. The Buckeye was 28 minutes and choked up 8 times, and received the second gold medal (The Perry Mower, a 10th rate machine, receiving the first). The Buckeye being considered second to the Perry. The 100 golden medals referred to in our advertisement are medals of praise which we esteem higher, as does every intelligent farmer, than those obtained behind the curtain at five times their value. They believe them more correct. A man don't have to lie to sell the *Advance*. We have given the Buckeye several invitations to mow against the *Advance*, she as often declined. Challenged her agents, through the Bangor daily papers last year, setting the time, she failed to appear. We gave her six days grace, then she did not come. We are ready now to test the Buckeye with the *Advance* in a good common-sense manner, at any convenient point, as follows:

1st—Which will cut a half acre the quickest and best of grass, two tons to the acre, the easiest for the team in the judgment of the Committee.

2nd—Which will cut same stout grass the best on the slowest walk of the team, and choke and clog the least.

3d—Which will start in the cut the most times without missing in the same stout grass.

4th—Which will cut the thinnest, driest grass we can find, the best on the slowest walk of the team.

5th—On lightness of draught, which we will decide by mowing down hill; the one that has the slackest traces—the machine running upon the horses and doing its work well—to be called the lightest draught.

If the Buckeye can stand these tests with the *Advance*—each of them—and also show other points of excellence which the *Advance Mower* possesses, then we will admit her to an equal of the *Advance*.

M. E. RICE, Agent.

Stetson, July 21st.

(We give him the balance of July to produce his machine in.)

COLLISION AT SEA AND LOSS OF LIFE. The ship Bengal of Boston, Burgess from Cardiff, Ireland for Singapore, put into Rio Janeiro June 12th for repairs, in consequence of having been run into by the British bark Royal Berkshire, bound for Cork. Capt. Burgess writes that on the night of May 28th, twenty miles north of the Equator, 24 40, while running eight knots an hour, with all sail set, a good lookout and sidelights burning, heard the second mate shout "hard up." when he jumped on deck and saw a light two points off on the weather bow, close to, and in an instant came in collision, striking the bark forward of the rigging and sinking her almost immediately. At the moment of collision six men from the bark got on board the Bengal. A boat was lowered to search for survivors, but did not find any until after daylight, when two men were found on a spar. One of the men said the fault was in the bark, there being no man at the wheel and they were catching water. The saved were the first and second mates, carpenter and four seamen. The lost were the captain, his sister, three boys and two men. The Bengal was badly damaged about the stem. A portion of her cargo had been discharged for repairs and she was expected to sail about the 1st of July.

THE LINE OF THE FRENCH AND PRUSSIAN FRONTIER. We find in our exchanges the following description of the line of frontier between France and Prussia, where the first movements of the armies of the two belligerent nations will be made and probably the first battle fought:

"France and Prussia are conterminous for about thirty or thirty-five miles. Beginning at Basle, on the Rhine, France has Baden on the east. At Lauterbourgh, near the mouth of the Lauter, a small stream which falls into the Rhine nearly opposite to Carlsruhe, the boundary trends off to the northwest, separating France from Rhenish Bavaria, and only at Saarbruck does the Prussian frontier begin. The dividing line terminates at the Moselle, which separates Rhenish Prussia from the Province of Luxembourg that acknowledges the sovereignty of Holland. Continuing in a northwesterly direction for about forty miles, the length reaches the frontier of Belgium, and onward the line then extends until it reaches the German Ocean between Nieuport and Dunkirk.

Along the Rhine, the Weissenburg line is a chain of light works running from the left bank of the Rhine fifteen miles along the Laut, in the neighborhood of Basle. The line was abandoned in 1867, but the works were not razed. The Vosges mountain run parallel with the Rhine, and form an additional barrier for the French frontier. They average 4000 feet in height, and are twenty-five miles wide. All their practicable passes are fortified. The most northern of these is the fortress at Bitsch, which in 1793 and 1815 withstood two Prussians attempts. The central passage of the Vosges is by the way of Saverne, and is held by the fort at Pialsbough, supported by Strasbourg at a short distance. Between Laverne and Belfort there are but two practicable passes, that by the way of St. Die and that of Remiremont. They are well guarded by the fortresses on the neighboring plains and by Belfort. The latter is in the centre of the opening, between the Jura and Vosges mountains, and being in the direct line between Basle and Paris, is an important junction for land communications. It has been much strengthened of late.

FIRES IN NEW BRUNSWICK. The *Colonial Farmer* is furnished by a correspondent at Tweedside, Mannes, Sutton, with the following particulars of the fires which have been raging in that vicinity for some time past:

"Fire has done great damage in the Parish within a few weeks; thousands of acres of farming and lumber lands have been completely ruined; and houses and barns have been burnt down, and great quantities of fencing burnt up; a large quantity of hay and grain consumed by the fires while growing; and a bridge 260 feet long is also destroyed. At one time over Oromocto Lake the blaze could be seen for miles in length, far up above the tree-tops, and its warning noise sounded as if a mighty cataract was in the vicinity. But last Sunday the fires appeared worse than ever, and Messrs. John Ross & Sons are immense losers, as the flames came with full force over their buildings, destroying within a few moments their grist mill, saw mills, a quantity of boards and clapboards, and two large barns together with stock, tools, &c. Malcom Ross lost both house and barn. The Messrs Esseus, four miles from the Messrs Ross & Sons, also lost their mills, two houses, several barns with all their contents, and a heavy amount in stock." King Settlement, a few miles up the Nashwaaksis severely felt the effect of fire. It made its way into the cultivated lands, and pastures, and crops on many farms were totally consumed. The horizon, north, south, east and west, was lighted up on Sunday night by the raging fires, and the smoke was so thick in town as to make it uncomfortable. We learn that several houses and barns were on that day destroyed at Hanwell; but every day brings some fresh reports of loss and destruction.

Special Notices.

HEALTH'S BEST DEFENCE.

"The weak eateth herbs," says St. Paul, so that eighteen hundred years ago the value of medicinal was appreciated. In the Old Testament botanical remedies are repeatedly recommended, but in no passage of sacred history is man recommended to swallow calomel, or blue pill, or any other mineral preparation. The sick were directed to eat herbs to strengthen them, to purify them, to heal them, to restore them. In that day the art of making vegetable extracts was unknown. The herbal medicines were mere infusions.

It was reserved for a later age to unite the sanitary essences of toule, aperient and antibilious roots, barks, and plants, with an active stimulant, and thus secure their rapid diffusion through the debilitated or disordered system. The crowning triumph of this effective mode of concentrating and applying the virtues of medicinal vegetables was achieved in the production of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters. Never before had a perfectly pure alcholic stimulant been combined with the expressed juices of the best specifics of the vegetable kingdom. Never yet, though eighteen years have elapsed since its introduction, has this great restorative been equalled. It is taken at all seasons, in all climates, as the most potent safe-guard against epidemics, as a protection against all unhealthy exhalations that produce debility or beget disease; as a remedy for intermittent and other miasmatical fevers; as an appetizer; as sovereign cure for dyspepsia; as a general tonic and invigorant; as a gentle, painless aperient; as a blood deparent; as a nervine; as a cure for bilious affections; as a harmless anodyne; and as the best defence or healthgainst unfavorable circumstances, such as sedentary pursuits, undue bodily or mental exertion, hardship, privation and exposure. 4w30

The Question Settled.—Those eminent men, Dr. Jas. Clark, Physician to Queen Victoria, and Dr. Hughes Bennett, say that consumption can be cured. Dr. Wistar knew this when he discovered his now widely known BALSAM OF WILD CHERRY, and experience has proved the correctness of his opinion.

☞R. P. Hall & Co., Nashua, N. H., proprietors of Hall's Vegetable Sicilian Hair Renewer, publish a treatise on the Hair, which they will send free to any one on application. This is a valuable little book; send for it. 1m34

Married.

In this city, 25th inst., by Rev. C. F. Penney, Ellison Gilbert, of Vassalboro', to Miss Lizzie M. Plummer of Augusta

In Phipsburg, 17th inst., George N. Smith to Miss Eunice Perkins.

In Durham, 21 inst., Austin A. Sewall to Miss Ellen M. Taylor, both of Lewiston.

In Lowell, Mass., 21st inst., in St. James Episcopal Church by Rev. Dr. Edson, U. S. Senator Adelbert Ames to Miss Blanche daughter of Gen. B. F. Butler.

In Sidney, May 1st, by D Wilber Esq., Elias A. Bowman and Miss Ella Newell, both of Sidney. July 23d inst., by the same, James H. Trask and Miss Alice Cummings, both of Sidney.

In Dresden, July 24th inst., John H. Stilphin, to Miss Sarah M Goodwin, both of D.

In Waldoboro,' July 24th inst., Gardner Benner, to Miss Eleanor Kaler, both of W

In Waldoboro,' July 25th inst., Melville F. Archer to Miss Maria V. Green, both of Fairfield.

Died.

In this city, 27th inst., of congestion of the lungs, Mrs. M J. wife of W. H. Smith, aged 45 years and 9 months.

In this city, 23d inst., Mrs. Mary Jane, wife of John Ellis, aged 34 years.

In this city July 9th, Elijah Lawson (not *Asa* Lawson as given last week) aged 84 years

In this city, 6th inst., Minnie M., infant daughter of Iddo B. and Helen F Turner, aged 4 months.

In Portland, 14th inst., George F., son of William and Emeline Ross, aged 9 years.

In Hallowell, 21st inst., Mr. Sylvanus Laughton, a highly respected citizen aged 73 years. 22d inst., of consumption, Mrs. Emily B., wife of John Carr, aged 39 years.

In North Wayne, 24th inst., Capt. Joseph Jennings, aged 65 years.

In Portland, July 22d, Henry M., only child of Henry H. and Nellie A. Wescott, aged 1 year, 3 months, 23 days.

In Bidfast, July 10th, Mrs. Mary M., wife of Joshua B. Trussell, aged 36 years, 10 months.

LAILA.

This charming FAIRY OPERETTA will be rendered at

MEONIAN HALL,

By a select Chorus of Misses of Augusta, assisted by a part of

BERRY'S QUADRILLE BAND,

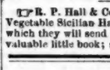
Friday Evening, July 29th.

Lively music will be played between scenes. Beautiful illumination in scene 2d, when the fairies enter, who are beautifully bedecked with imitation of jewels and diamonds. Natural forest scenery.

Tickets of admission, 25 cents. Reserved seats, 50 cents.

Ticket office open on and after Wednesday July 27th, at the Book and Music Store of E. E. PATTERSON, and at the Hall on the night of the Concert. Plan of the Hall can be seen at both places.

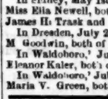
1w34 W. A. PACKARD, Director and Pianist.



VALUABLE FARM FOR SALE.

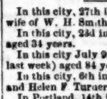
Five miles from City Hall, Portland, on Falmouth Foreside, consisting of 2 1-2 story house, with ell. Stable 60x40, Barn 40x70. Seventy acres of excellent land, under a high state of cultivation; a most valuable milk or stock farm; cuts nearly 100 tons of hay; a ready market for all milk, produce, &c, at the highest prices. The following stock and farming utensils will also be sold: Three Cows, two Yearling Heifers, two Spring Calves; one Buckeye Mowing Machine, large size; two Ox Carts; one Hay-rack; one Double Riding Wagon Plows, Harrows, Horse Rakes, &c. Property insured for $4,600.

Apply to GEORGE R. DAVIS & CO.,
3w34 Real Estate and Mortgage Brokers.



FARM FOR SALE.

Situated in VASSALBORO', on the river road between Augusta and Waterville, one mile from the Depot at Getchell's Corner, near Oak Grove Seminary; a short distance from church and schools; cuts 30 tons of hay. Said farm contains 82 acres of good land, suitably divided into tillage and pasturing, 20 acres of wood and; good orchard of 150 trees in bearing condition. Buildings in good order, two wells of soft water. For further particulars inquire of or address, on the premises STEPHEN FRYE.
Vassalboro', July 26, 1870. 3w34*



FARM FOR SALE.

The subscriber being in poor health, offers for sale his farm pleasantly situated on KENT'S HILL about three-quarters of a mile from the College, church and schoolhouse. Said farm contains 80 acres of good land under a high state of cultivation; is suitably divided into tillage, pasturing and woodland; cuts from 35 to 40 tons of good English hay. Buildings all good, convenient, and in good repair. A good orchard, mostly engrafted fruit; is well fenced, mostly with stone wall and cedar; two wells never failing water. The hay, crops, and farming tools will be sold with the farm if desired. For further particulars, inquire of the subscriber on the premises. ALDEN PACKARD.
Kent's Hill, July 26, 1870. 2tcopf

12000 LAMB KNITTING MACHINES in use, sold on their merits, with little advertising.

The only machine that knits circular, flat and seamed work, narrowing and widening on each. Every Family should have one.

Send for SAMPLE STITCHING and circular showing wherein the Lamb Machine is *superior in all points and cheaper than any other.*

LAMB KNITTING MACHINE M'F'G. CO.,
513 Washington Street, Boston. 6m34

7 PER CENT. GOLD

First Mortgage Bonds,

COUPON OR REGISTERED,

Free from U. S. Tax,

ISSUED BY THE

Burlington Cedar Rapids and Minnesota Railroad Co.

We are still offering a limited quantity for sale.

AT 90 AND INTEREST.

Interest payable May and November.

J. EDGAR THOMSON, } Trustees.
CHARLES L. FROST, }

These bonds have fifty years to run, are convertible at the option of the holder into the stock of the Company at par, and the payment of the principal is provided for by a sinking fund. The convertibility privilege attached to these bonds cannot fail to cause them at no distant day to command a market price considerably above par, besides paying about 9 per cent., currency, interest in the meanwhile. U. S. Five-twenties at present prices only return 8 per cent., and we regard the security equally good.

The greater part of the road is already completed, and the balance of the work is rapidly progressing.

The established character of this road running as it does through the heart of the most thickly settled and richest portion of the great State of Iowa, together with its present advanced condition and large earnings warrant us in unhesitatingly recommending these bonds to investors, as, in every respect, an undoubted security.

HENRY CLEWS & CO.,
32 Wall Street, New York.
POTTER BROS., Bankers, Augusta.
J. L. ADAMS, Cashier, "
Wm. T. JOHNSON, Cashier, " 34

RELIANCE WRINGER

IMPROVED.

Moulton Rolls, White Rubber. Spiral Cogs. Easy Working. Has Curved Clamp. Fits any Tub. The Best. The Cheapest. TRY IT.

PROVIDENCE TOOL CO.,
29 Beekman St., N. Y.} 16tecop34 PROV., R. I.

LARGE AND VALUABLE PROPERTY IN BETHEL, ME AT AUCTION on Wednesday, August 3, 1870. At 12 o'clock, noon

THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

Poetry.

GOD KNOWS IT ALL.

In the dim recess of thy spirit's chamber
Is there some hidden grief thou mayest not tell?
Let not thy heart forsake thee, but remember
His pitying eye Who sees and knows it well—
God knows it all!

And art thou tossed on billows of temptation,
And wouldst do good, but evil still prevails?
Oh! think amid the waves of tribulation,
When earthly hope, when earthly refuge fails—
God knows it all!

And dost thou sin? thy deeds of shame concealing
In some dark spot no human eye can see—
Then walk in pride without one sign revealing
The deep remorse that should disquiet thee—
God knows it all!

Art thou oppressed, and poor, and heavy-hearted,
Tho heavens above thee in thick clouds arrayed,
And well-nigh crushed, no earthly strength imparted,
No friendly voice to say, "Be not afraid!"
God knows it all!

Art thou a mourner? Are thy tear-drops flowing
For one so early lost to earth and thee—
The depth of grief no human spirit knows,
Which means in secret like the moaning sea?
God knows it all!

Dost thou look back upon a life of sinning?
Forward, and tremble for thy future lot!
There's One who sees the end from the beginning!
Thy tear of penitence is unforgot—
God knows it all!

Then go to God! Pour out your heart before Him!
There is no grief your Father cannot feel;
And let your grateful songs of praise adore Him—
To save, forgive, and every wound to heal—
God knows it all!

Our Story-Teller.

A PRINCELY FORTUNE!

HOW I INHERITED IT, AND HOW I WAS ROBBED OF THE BULK OF IT.

That was my fortune. There is no dream, no romance. I set down the simple truth, strange as it will appear to many. During a portion of my life that was my income—a million sterling per minute—secured to me by papers in my own hands. Never had I considered so much wealth as those papers entitled me to, and even as I read them I did not believe in their reality. They were real, nevertheless. So was the fortune. So, I am persuaded now, were the circumstances, romantic as they seemed, under which I gained and lost.

The money came to me under the will of old Rodney Gauntlett. Everybody in the city knew him in his lifetime—knew him as a shrewd, active, hot tempered man, and called him "old," while he was yet in his prime. As far as my memory looks back, he justified the epithet. He looked old, withered, and dried up, yet there was plenty of life in him, as those found who crossed his path or tried to overreach him in business transactions that took him every day into the chief places of resort in the city. His black eyes burnt under frost white brows, and when contradicted and opposed, the purple blood would rush into his cadaverous cheek, or swell the veins in his forehead, till he was fearful to look at.

At ordinary times he was mild and gentle; except that he was always absorbed in business, he might have been kind and tender. To me he some times was so. If he ever unbent, it was to his little Julie as he called me, and that was more often, I think, when I had grown out of my childhood and became a woman; and so more of a companion to him. In my younger life I remember fancying that he avoided, and even regarded me with dislike. It might have been so. There was no apparent reason why he should regard me in any other light. I was only, as I knew quite soon enough, the child of an old friend—one Colonel Anthony Wyvern—whom he had adopted out of charity.

Having so adopted me, he did his duty by me. All admitted that; the praise of him in that particular rang as a ceaseless paean in his ears, and in mine. And I was daily bidden to take note how good he was, how loving and how generous; and what infinite return, by way of goodness, gratitude, docility, perseverance, and I know not what other virtues, all this demanded at my hands. I am afraid I sometimes wished he had been less to me, so that there might have been some hope of my being to him what it was declared my duty to become.

I tried my best, however; and he, I believe, was satisfied. Our house was an old one that had held its own in the city when the city had even its palaces. But in the long course of time it had yielded, foot by foot, to encroachments on all sides, until it was fairly bricked in, and utterly lost to public gaze. It could only be reached by means of a passage through another house, which had planted its great broad back right in front of our windows, and so obstructed our view and shut out our light. This want of light is what I always most severely felt; for the rooms were large, lofty, and proportionately gloomy; and there was one with a painted ceiling that I dared not enter; for the figures, gaunt and writhing, always seemed alive up there in the gloom, and haunted even my dreams.

Old Rodney Gauntlett's own rooms were on the ground floor, they were like dungeons, but he never saw them so. All the year round he breakfasted and dined by candle light—yellow wax lights, in old plated candelabra, red and copper, were always lit for him night and morning. That was his fancy, and, like all other habits, had taken firm root in him.

Bridget and I lived up stairs. Bridget, by the way, was domestic, housekeeper, nurse, and general servant in one. She was as old as her master. Thin, white locks peeped out from under her mob cap, bound round with a black ribbon, and shone like silver. Her skin was yellow and wrinkled; her hands suggested claws, they were so hard and fleshless. But she had an eye bright and true as a hawk's; it defied age. Bridget was my good friend and almost sole companion. If I could have wished her other than she was, it would have been in respect of her sense of Rodney Gauntlett's goodness to me, and of the hard measure of gratitude she thought proper to exact from my unhappy self in return. In this respect she was unflinching. I was never suffered to forget that I subsisted on charity, or that persons so circumstanced had no rights—they had only duties.

As I was saying, our rooms were up stairs, they were three in number, and formed the whole of the second floor. My share comprised a very large bedroom, that had been a reception room in the old times and a smaller apartment opening out of it. Bridget's chamber was outside mine, her door close to the top of the great staircase; so that, sleeping there, she in a manner, kept watch and ward over me.

The smaller room in which I lived was like a borrowed room from the last century. It was wainscoted and had a mantlepiece carved over with cupids, engaged in festooning heavy wreaths about it. Above, there was an oval glass slanting forward so that it reflected all below it, only a fraction of its surface being hidden by a small clock, on which it appeared to rest. The furniture was in keeping; tables with carved legs and brass handles and fittings; chairs with oval backs and striped moreen cushions; escritoire with drawers, and Indian jars—all these were conspicuous. But most conspicuous of all was a Japanese cabinet, very large and cumbrous, black as ebony, with quaint figures in gold and dead colors, in slight relief. It must once have been very costly, but now out of repair, and was only used as a receptacle for papers.

I never recall my room without a thought of this cabinet. It is especially associated with the first visit of a friend of Rodney Gauntlett's, who afterwards came often to the house, far oftener than I cared to see him. I recall that visit like a dream. I seem to see myself, a pale, slim girl, with hair of a reddish hue, so thick that it will never keep its place in any knot into which I twist it, but is always hanging about my shoulders studded with hair pins. 'Tis evening, and I am close to the window, straining my eyes over a book in the failing light. The book touches me deeply, and I am conscious that my eyelids are red and that there are tears on my cheeks. While I am thus absorbed the door opens, and Bridget enters, bearing in her hand one of the old plated candelabra with wax lights flaring in it, and so preceding two other persons. One was Rodney Gauntlett himself; the other a stranger—a fine, tall, square-shouldered man, with olive face, black eyes, and shining white teeth. As I give a scared look, and toss back my cumbrous hair, it is Mr. Gauntlett who says, pointing to the stranger, "Mr. Hugh Dinsdale, my dear, an esteemed friend of mine." Wholly unused to visitors, I am confused, but mutter something to the purpose, and am conscious of having my hand squeezed in a broad palm, and held there a trifle—only a trifle—longer than I felt to be necessary. The memory of what follows is made up of three incidents. The impression that Mr. Gauntlett is gayer and brighter than I had ever seen before; that Mr. Hugh is embarrassingly polite; and this further, that, whenever I catch his eyes wandering, it is always in the direction of the Japanese cabinet, which appears to have a strange fascination for him.

That night's introduction was, as I have said, followed by many visits on the part of Mr. Dinsdale. It was not long before he declared himself my devoted admirer, and begged me to regard him as a suitor for my hand. My patron, too, hinted as delicately as he could that such an arrangement would be gratifying to him. As for Bridget she declared him to be the finest gentleman in the world and was perpetually regarding me with her head on one side and her hands raised in a sort of ecstacy of admiration at my good fortune.

But I received him coldly; I could not like him; his coming chilled my heart. The touch of his hand distressed me so that I dreamed of it in the night, and woke up with a shudder.

Still he came and came. I had a suspicion that he knew how I loathed him, and gloried in his power to inflict the torture of his presence on me; gloried still more in suggesting a further horror.

"Am I never to prove my love by showing how happy I can make you?"

"I am very happy," would be my cold reply.

"But as my wife? Ah, if we could only realize the future I have planned!"

"The present amply contents me."

So it went on.

At last he lost all patience, and grew fairly angry with me. Whenever we met his words were harsh, and his looks threatening. I could not endure this, and in one passionate outburst bade him begone, and trouble me no farther.

"I will never be your wife," I said. "I will die I hate you. Leave me."

He obeyed; but there was a malignant glitter in his eye as he strode out of the room; and I saw that he bit his thin lips to bleeding to keep in the words with which he would have cursed me. For more than a month I saw him no more. This might have surprised me; but during the part of that time I had no leisure to give a thought to him. My benefactor was taken ill. It was the winter time, and he was seized with a slight cold, of which he took no heed until inflammation followed: and was soon really ill. Even then he would not deem himself an invalid, would not see a doctor, or give up his daily pursuits.

Within a week he was worn to a shadow; his eyes sank, his shoulders rounded, and a cough tore fiercely at his lungs. I was terrified; but he only laughed at my fears, and declared that he would soon be better.

On the eighth night of his illness I sat late in my room; I could hear him coughing below; but Bridget brought a message that he was busy over his papers, and did not care to be intruded on. Having given this message, and assured me had all he could need for the night, she had gone to bed. I was wretched, for I felt certain he was very ill and needed advice. Sitting there over the dying embers, I half persuaded myself to go to him, in spite of his message, and entreat him to comply with my wishes in this respect. But he was not a man whose will was to be thwarted, who was open to persuasion. So I tried to bethink of some friend to whom I might appeal—some one who had influence over him. One name only suggested itself—the hateful name of Hugh Dinsdale. At the bare suggestion of it I cowered over the grate with a shudder, but it seemed to act as a spell; under its influence thoughts crowded upon me, and my mind grew morbidly active, and soon I was almost lost to consciousness in the bewildering perplexities of my own reflections.

For an hour I might have brooded thus. When I at length started, as out of a vision, I was conscious of a chilliness and of its being very late. I put my hand to my waist for my watch. It wanted three minutes of two. Was that right by the clock on the mantlepiece? I asked myself. Instinctively I looked up. The leaning oval glass reflected me as I sat. I saw my own face and figure; and I saw more. There was another face looking over my shoulders—another figure standing at my back!

Yes, clearly and unmistakably, I saw my benefactor, Rodney Gauntlett, standing there, and bending over me with a strange, pitying look in his face.

"You here, sir!" I cried, turning round frightened—I know not why.

There was no answer.

I half rose.

As I did so, the form receded from me. It went slowly, with the shuffling gait of an enfeebled man. The face was toward me, even when there was the width of room between us. Then it turned away. It turned toward the Japanese cabinet, and I saw an uplifted forefinger beckoning me to observe what followed. The movement was so natural, so real, that it scared away the fears which were beginning to paralyze me.

"Speak to me sir!" I cried out, stepping forward as I spoke, "or if you are too ill—"

The finger was raised again, this time as if to silence me. Then the face half turned. I could catch the expression of the eyes, and followed them. They seemed to single out a spot—a rosebud in the flower-pattern of the cabinet—and then the pointing finger went straight to that spot.

Unless I dreamed, the bud yielded under the pressure of the finger tip!

I saw it sink and spring back to its place. Then almost instantly, a long and narrow panel fell out and dropped on the ground.

"You wish to show me the secret of this?" I gasped, looking up from the spot where the panel lay. To my surprise I addressed vacancy. The figure was gone.

My alarm was intense. Had I seen the ghost of Rodney Gauntlett? My conviction was that I had. Yet the finger had touched the spring, the rosebud had yielded, and there was the result before me? Could a spirit have done that? If so, for what purpose? While more dead than alive, I asked of myself this second question, my eye involuntarily turned toward that part of the cabinet from which the panel had dropped. A small aperture had been laid bare, evidently a small recess; and what it contained was clearly revealed to my gaze.

It was a folded paper.

Here again was something real and tangible. It helped me to fight against the conviction that what I had seen was supernatural, though my frame shook with the terror of a ghostly visitation. With a tremulous hand I snatched at the paper and tore it open. Casting my eyes hurriedly over it I saw it was a will—Rodney Gauntlett's will. Through a mass of blurred letters I gathered, by means of it, that he revoked all former wills; and then lighted on these words, glowing as they seemed in letters of fire:"——all my real and personal estate, amounting at this present writing to three millions sterling, to Julia Gauntlett, otherwise known and designed by me as Julia Wyvern, my own true and lawful daughter——"

I could read no more. The words swam before my eyes.

What? Was I Rodney Gauntlett's own child? Was it a fiction that he had reared me out of the love he bore for his old friend? What mystery was here? What could have prompted so strange, so cruel a course? And now, why did he keep me alone for all by securing to me a fortune, vast beyond computation?

These questions crowded to my lips. The awe, the marvel, the mystery of what was passing confounded me. My only proof of the reality of all was the crackling of the paper I grasped in my hand. That was real, that and the cabinet from which I had taken it. Yes; and hark! The great bell of St. Paul's was chiming. Real enough, that, I stood and counted the quarter chimes; and then the first for the hour—one; the second, two.

As the last echo died away, I glanced again at the will. In the act of doing so, and stooping my head for the purpose, I suddenly fell heavily forward, with a crashing sound in my ears. A blow had been dealt from behind, by an unseen hand, and under the force of it I dropped, bleeding and senseless

More than a week had elapsed before the sense of life returned to me. I was in my own bed, and Bridget's kindly face was bending over me. Pain racked my brow, and I was conscious of having suffered intensely. It was some time before I was permitted to ask questions, or to receive information as to what had happened. At length Bridget gratified my curiosity to some extent.

She informed me that my patron, Rodney Gauntlett, had died on the night to which I have alluded, at three minutes to two, as nearly as Bridget could calculate, she being then the only person in the house except myself. Her reason for fixing the hour was that at three minutes to two—the time at which the house clock gave "warning"—she, being startled by a strange noise, had got into his room only to find him dead in his chair. While there, a sound overhead apprised her of my fall, at the same moment St. Paul's struck two. On rushing up stairs she found me on the floor where I had fallen, as she supposed, in hurrying to the sick man's aid, and with the back of my head bleeding.

At this stage I interrupted her with two questions of the utmost moment to me. Was she quite certain that there was no person in the house beside ourselves? She was quite certain. Did she observe anything peculiar about the Japanese cabinet or see any paper on the floor? No.

These answers startled me. It was hard to believe that I had been dreaming, and yet was it not more probable than that all of which I seemed to have a remembrance should really have happened? The apparition, the will, the enormous fortune, the disclosure of my relationship to Gauntlett, the brutal attack by which I was overpowered—who would believe in the reality of these things? How could I believe in the reality of them myself? It was well nigh impossible; yet it had all been so real, so terribly real, to me that I could not forego belief in it without a struggle.

However, I kept my own counsel. I said nothing to Bridget, nothing to the doctor when he came. In time I formed this further resolution—I would say nothing unless my impression received confirmation through subsequent events. One such confirmation did they receive—it was a very startling one. When Rodney Gauntlett's will came to be read, it was found that his fortune exceeded all belief. He had been money grubbing and speculating all his life, but no one suspected that he had died worth—three millions of money! His will disclosed that fact for the first time.—When I heard the words I fainted. Here was a corroboration of what I had discovered in my dream, or whatever it was, so strong that it utterly overpowered me. Unless I had read it in the paper I took from the Japanese cabinet, how could I have thought of that sum? Such a thing was beyond coincidence; and when I came to myself, I eagerly demanded a sight of the will. It was handed to me, and one glance dispelled all my illusions. It was not written on the paper I had seen, and it contained no mention of my relationship to the testator. My name was there, but only for an annuity of three hundred pounds for life. The bulk of the vast fortune was left in other ways, a very large slice falling to the share to the man I detested and had rejected, Hugh Dinsdale.

Time passed on. I had quitted the old house. All I had related had become a thing of memory. Bridget was dead. Hugh Dinsdale had gone, I knew not where, to the Indies, I had heard, but neither knew nor cared. I was receiving my annuity, and enjoying a simple country life, over which the shadows of the past fell lightly. In the process of time I had almost persuaded myself out of the reality of what I had long held as the mystery of my life.

One Winter evening an adventure occurred to me. I was returning home from a long walk.—Tired and anxious to reach my cottage before dark, I took a short cut through a field, adjoining a farm. In that field were several stacks of hay and corn, and as I passed these I saw that a group of persons, evidently from the farm itself, were bending over some object lying on the ground. My curiosity was aroused. As they moved aside on my drawing near, I saw that it was a man who was the object of their attention, a squalid man in the rags of a beggar. He was ill, haggard, starving, yet I could not mistake that face.

"Hugh Dinsdale!" I exclaimed, aloud.

He shuddered as he lay, then looked up, feebly shading his eyes with a tremulous hand. Too weak to speak aloud, it was only by drawing my ear toward his mouth that he could make me understand what he had to say. It took this form:

"Julia Gauntlett, for that is your true, right name, I robbed you of all I did it. Yes, yes; no need to hide it now. I knew Gauntlett's last will was hidden in that cabinet, knew it from the past; knew its purport, and strove to make you mine in consequence. Had you consented, we should have shared the old man's millions, you and I. You rejected me and I had recourse to other means to get the latter will destroyed, so that I might benefit by a former will, under which I was entitled. I was in the house when he died, his life was shortened by my means. I passed from his room to yours, when I had made sure of the old will, that left me so much. I came upon you as you read the will you had found, the true will, in which he had acknowledged you as his child, and left you all. It was I who struck you down and secured that paper. I swear to you that this is the truth."

"But tell me," I cried, "what do you know of my father's motive in disowning me, and of my mother—"

"Nothing."

"And this other will?"

"Destroyed. Consumed in the flames. The fortune can never be yours."

These were the last words, spoken with his stiffening lips, and they were true. Without the will it was impossible for me to gain one penny more of my father's princely fortune than I now enjoy. The wealth he had designed a recompense for the wrong he had done me, Heaven knows why, had flowed away into other channels and could never be recovered. I had held the right to it for three minutes only, from the moment of his death, that in which he had appeared to me, until the villain's hand had snatched it away. Only for three minutes out of a whole lifetime; but during that space my income exceeded that of any potentate in the world. It was at the rate of a million a minute.

Black Bass and their Habits.

The following article descriptive of the Black Bass of the northern lakes, from the pen of a correspondent of the Providence *Journal*, will be of interest to many of our readers.

"The color of this fish (which appears to vary with locality or season), is generally dark olive green on the back, shading gradually into a brownish yellow on the sides; belly opaque white. Body compressive oval; back arched; belly less curved than the superior outline; breadth as two to seven; lateral line concurrent weth the back; head small, little less than one fourth the length the body. The first dorsal fin has the sharp spines, the anterior ray being short; the second dorsal is covered at its base with scales, and has fifteen rays, preceded by an obtuse spine of half of their length; this fin is arched and rounded posteriorly."

The black bass, like the trout, frequents secluded and shady nooks, rapid waters, deep, still pools and eddies, while in the broad ponds or lakes he is equally at home. When nature first begins to throw off the chilly garb of Winter, and the bright, warm suns of Spring bring forth the dogwood blossoms, he leaves his dark and slimy retreat at the bottom of some deep basin, in the rocky crevices of which he has been literally packed during the Winter, and commences working up the streams, the warm shallows of which impart new life to his sluggish and half torpid system, and furnish the proper places in which to prepare a spawning bed. These beds are generally located on a gravelly bottom, just below a slight rapid, where the action of the water is not sufficiently strong to disturb or wash away the eggs after being deposited, yet afford the requisite motion needed to bring them to maturity. In preparing the beds where the bottom is composed of sand, with a scarcity of gravel, they will bring from quite a distance, pebbles as large as a small walnut and arrange them systematically in a pile about four inches in height and about six inches across the botttom, in the interstices of which they deposit the eggs, and in this way secure a proper circulation of water among them. The spawning season commences about the first of June, and by the first of July the young are fully hatched; they, however, remain about the nest as yet dependent upon the watchful care of their parents to protect them from the ravages of other fish; should some adventurous yellow perch or sunfish make the attempt, he is fortunate indeed if he escapes being gobbled up by strong jaws which at once confront him.

About the first of August, the young fry being safely disposed of, the parent fish begin to move about in search of food, skirting small rocky islands, among the overhanging rushes and grasses of which myriads of minnows are continually at play, or at the mouth of little streams, the rocky beds of which furnish an abundance of crawfish, a favorite article of food with them. They are not confined to this diet, however; frogs, sunfish, small catfish, earth worms, the hard shell clam, bugs, flies, the tender stem of the fallen leaf, all find a place in their hungry maw. Through this month they rise readily to the artificial fly, the most killing of which is the scarlet ibis, although in sections the white miller and gray duck are also favorites. In trolling, the bug-spoon possesses great attractions, as does also the artificial minnow. To a true sportsman, however, there is very little pleasure in thus impaling a noble fish on a gang of hooks from which escape is almost an impossibility, thus requiring no skill or dexterity to land him safely.

For trolling the writer prefers two hooks (Aberdeen) about two feet apart, the upper one to be firmly secured to the leader without the ordinary shell, so that it may revolve readily, without twisting, or becoming entangled. With live minnow for bait, by this method it is no unusual occurrence to have a second strike while playing the first, as his efforts to escape serve to attract others. A pair of two-pound bass on light tackle make rather exciting sport, requiring some little nerve and skill to bring them safely to the landing net. In still fishing there are so many different ways of baiting for these fish, that the young perch fisherman, with his squirming angle worm, may bring to grief the scientific angler by capturing a lordly four-pounder under his very nose. Still, experience has taught me that live bait is the surest at all times, and the livelier the better.

During the months of September and October these fish are in splendid condition, the meat firm and flaky, resembling in color and flavor that of the tautog, or black fish, more than any other that I have seen. They also have the same peculiarity in regard to changing their color after being out of the water a short time, and exude the same copperas tainted slime over their bodies. They are extremely tenacious of life, and if protected from the sun, will live for hours after being taken from the water. With a little care these fish can be transported alive long distances, the facilities for traveling at the present day being such that one or two days travel would be all that would be required to land them at their destination. When once introduced to their new homes, no further care will be needed, as they readily adapt themselves to change of climate, &c., and are fully capable of protecting themselves, even in ponds stocked with the voracious pike or pickerel. Of course all fishing in a pond thus stocked with these bass, should be strictly prohibited for a certain time, (say three years) after that there would be no danger of depletion.

That this fish can be introduced, and will rapidly multiply in strange waters, has been fully proven in every instance where the attempt has been made. In the Fall of 1857-8, a number of black bass were brought from Ohio, in the water tank of a locomotive, and put into the Potomac, near Cumberland. To-day this river is full of them, and during the past season, in the vicinity of Harper's Ferry, as high as 100 pounds of these fish have been taken in a day's fishing with the rod and reel. In the vicinity of Washington and Georgetown, they are also abundant. The writer of this article caught his first during the Summer of 1864, and at that time they were comparatively unknown this side of the Great Falls. To show how rapidly they have increased since, I will give the result of my last half day's sport this season, near the same locality, viz: 22 weighing on an average two pounds each. These fish were taken trolling with live bait, and twice I succeeded in hooking a second while playing another, and was fortunate enough to save both.

As they have increased in the Potomac, so will they also in your own waters, and in less time, as they are much smaller streams. Give these fish but the ghost of a chance, and in five years they will become almost, if not quite, as plentiful as the yellow perch, which now fairly swarm in most of the ponds in your vicinity, and in place of a fish of little value either to the angler, or as an article of food, you get one that will gladden the heart of all true sportsmen, and tempt the appetite of the daintiest epicure.—*S. A. Lewis.*

Legal Advice.

A gentleman ordered a suit of clothes from a tailor, and specially enjoined him that they must be made by the next Tuesday, and must be made in the finest style, and that unless the tailor could have them ready to a certainty beyond a paradventure to the day, that he must not undertake them; but Snip promised faithfully that they would be finished. Tuesday came and no clothes; the enraged man flew to the cabbage man's house and said: "What's the reason my clothes are not ready as you promised? Here you have kept me in the city at a loss of time and business only to disappoint me; now, if we had you in our part of the country, I tell you what they would call you: they would say you were a perfect squirt."

The humble knight of the goose explained that the only competent workman that he had, capable of making the suit, had a wife lying at death's door, and he could not possibly leave her. The outraged gentleman was not able to smother his disappointment, and berated the tailor pretty soundly for failing in his positive promise. The ninth fraction of the "genus homo" could not stand this, and plainly told his customer to go to the caloric regions of Pandemonium.

The customer, red with rage, rushed across the street to a lawyer, and in an excited and hurried manner, said:

"Do you know Snip, the tailor, across the way?"

"Yes, I know him," answered Brief.

"Well, now, I want your advice," said the gentleman: "I want to know what you would do in such a case. That old stitch louse has kept me here in the city on expense, to the great detriment of my business, and disappointed me in a suit of clothes; but when I went to remonstrate with the fellow about it, what do you suppose he said to me? He told me to go to——"

With these words he laid down a ten dollar bill on the desk, and said, "Now sir, what would you do?"

"Do you mean this for a retainer?" asked Brief.

"I do," was the reply.

"Then," said Brief, quietly folding up the ten and putting it into his pocket, "he told you to go to——. Well, my opinion and advice to you is, don't do it. There is, moreover, no statute or local law that can compel you to a specific performance. I say, don't you do it."

A Romance of the Sea.

A remarkable story reaches us from Liverpool. Six sailors, bearing the names respectively of John Coleman, D. M'Call, Middy Baptiste, Joachim King Dilombo, Charles Lance and Francis Edward Gray, have just passed through a succession of adventures on a desert island, which more than realize the most thrilling of the many romantic stories of shipwreck written for our youth. The fine, new iron clipper ship Mercurius left San Francisco early in January last on her return to England, having previously made her first voyage from the Clyde to Sydney. She was commanded by Captain Cuthbertson, an experienced navigator, and all went well with her until the 25th of March. In the early morning of that day, it being then dark and raining heavily, the good ship struck on a dangerous coral island, known as the Rocas Reef, in latitude 2 52 S longitude 33 20 W. No one on board had thought of danger until five minutes before the Mercurius struck. The lookout man then gave the alarm, "breakers ahead!" The captain was called, the course of the ship was altered, and her helm was put "hard over." But it was too late. A few seconds of intense anxiety, in the endurance of which men seem to live years, and then all doubts were solved by the Mecurius first grazing her sides below the water on the sharp coral, and then striking violently on it twice. She began to fill instantly, and as she was hanging as it were over the ledge of the rock, the word was passed to man the long boat, in the hope of saving all hands. But while this was being done, the ship lurched suddenly outwards and went down like a stone, in 8 fathoms of water. It may be remarked that one of the characteristics of coral reefs is that they frequently have deep water right up to them, and the position of the rocky islands in the Red Sea, the position of which is wrongly given on the charts, are especially dangerous from this fact, and because, like the Rocas Reef, they lie low, and at night or in thick weather elude observation thoroughly. If the fate of the Mecurius reminds the House of Commons of the dangers to which ships in the Red Sea are exposed, her loss will not have been in vain; and as the useful question put by Mr. Gourley some time back has neither been repeated nor borne fruit, it may be that some other independent member will take the matter up, and prevail upon the authorities to have the Red Sea re-surveyed. For out of the 22 hands on board the Mecurius, the morning found but six alive, and these, after swimming two hours and until tide fell, gained a footing on the ledge and proceeded to explore it. Their story reminds one from this time of Philip Quarles and Robinson Crusoe, of Juan Fernandez, the Swiss Family Robinson, and the ingenious hero of Mr. Reade's and Mr. Boucicault's novel.

Looking to the sea, the tops of the fore and mainmast of the Mercurius were just visible out of the water; looking over the islands which were to be their home, some fifteen acres of barren rock, interspersed with patches of sand, and connected by a narrow isthmus with another rock equally barren, of the same size, met their gaze. One cocoanut tree formed the only sign of vegetation. It was the sole survivor of those which were planted there some years ago by order of her Majesty's Consul at Pernambuco, in order that the reef might be seen more easily by vessels on the Brazil or Cape Horn route, in the direct track of which it lies; but there had been wrecks here previously, and with the aid of articles left behind by the survivors, the ship-wrecked men contrived to bend circumstances to their will. They found two fresh tanks deposited in convenient positions and filled with water, as well as a considerable quantity of broken timber, out of which they built themselves a log hut. They found, too, that pearl of price a broken knife, a hammer, a two-ounce weight and a large copper bolt, and with these clumsy tools they made two boats out of the planking strewed about the rocks, fastening them with nails which they extracted from the broken timber of other wrecks. It does not appear that the poor fellows had any thought of escaping in these boats, but they were enabled to make fishing excursions and to sail with signals flying in search of passing ships in the early morning and in the evening, when the sun's fierceness was subdued. They had no clothes, and except in their hut no shade, and the tropical heat was terrible. The majority of the men saved were in their berths, when the Mercurius struck, and swam to the rock in their shirts; and it was not until one of their number made a hat out of the fibre of the solitary cocoa-tree, sewing it together with a needle made out of a piece of brass found on the island, that any protection for the head was to be seen among them. To add to their misery, the reef swarmed with venomous ants, which bit the strangers unmercifully, and with an effect which can only be realized by those who have suffered from the insect-life of tropical climes. The commissariat question was settled in a way which will make the school-boy's mouth water who reads of it. They went out in their boat and caught fish and turtle, and they had an abundance of birds' eggs and shell fish. They manufactured bird traps and caught young birds, cooking them by a fire which was never suffered to go out by night or day. They had, of course, no matches and no means of procuring a light other than the time honored one we have all read of in Cooper's novels—that of rubbing two bits of wood together till they ignite. There was no fuel belonging to the island, and the broken debris of former wrecks supplied the only material for the all-important fire. Three times during their sojourn on the rock was this fire suffered by some accident to go out; and three times was the experiment in friction anxiously and successfully tried.

So the time wore on until fifty-one weary days had been spent on the reef, days in which every man scanned the horizon, and in which the strong cheered the faint hearted, and all spoke hope in turn. It is easy to picture the existence the men led. The first gratitude of escape; the anxious search for fellow survivors; the mournful conclusion that the rest of their shipmates were no more; the stern necessity which bade them work, invent, contrive; the development day by day of some fresh ingenuity, some little suspected quality in each, and the gradual accumulation of reliefs, and even comforts, can all be traced. They were prudent men—men taught by calamity to prepare for a rainy day; for when rescued they had two hundred eggs in store, and are described as being in good condition. Their rescue was not effected until the 15th of May, when the commander of the iron clipper bark Silver Craig, Capt. Cohn, was approaching Pernambuco, and discerned a lump on the well-known Rocas Reef, which he made out to be a hut. Drawing nearer, he discerned a signal of distress, composed of a seaman's white shirt fluttering half-mast high, and he then hove to within two miles of the island, and waited until six nearly naked men put off in their rude boats and came on board.

They were kindly and hospitably received, and had a passage given them to Liverpool, where they are now telling their strange story, and exhibiting to their friends the cocoa-fibre hats, which were until recently their only articles of attire, and which they now keep as momentoes of the perils they have escaped. In simple force, in romance, in strangeness, in fertility of resource and in adventure, the real experience of these six sailors on a desolate island is worthy of DeFoe, and makes most fictitious histories of shipwreck seem tame and feeble by comparison.

Care of Children.

To mothers who anxiously inquire how to make children healthy, I would say, commence aright. It is a senseless and cruel thing to take a young, feeble and tender infant and dress it, even cold weather, in a manner that would chill and nearly freeze a hardy older person. No matter how inclement the season, the silly mother must have her tender infant dressed in style, with its little throat, lungs and shoulders uncovered, and the arms bare, with only a string of gauze looped on the shoulder; because any other garb would look "pokish" and old-fashioned. A young infant has but little means for circulating the blood, and the loose blanket about it is on one moment and off the next, by that very means doing more hurt than good. There the helpless creature lies, getting first red and then purple with the cold, and laying ample foundations for the diseases that are sure to come.

I repeat again, that a strong, rugged person could not bear the exposure to which tender infants of a few weeks' or months' age are subjected, simply through the ignorance of their mothers, or for silly pride.

My two little boys, whom I now hear yelling like mose troopers, as they navigate some slate rocks across the ledges for their miniature fort, I claim, obtained the power of lungs by being *clothed*, not *trimmed* when infants.

I don't believe in cheese, mince pies and hot doughnuts for anybody's supper, let alone for children's; but some people feed such things to the darlings because they will cry for them. I know scores of little girls, white or sallow-faced, thin and sickly, who, from early spring until fall, have their necks, lungs and shoulders senselessly exposed to the winds, the drafts and dews; and in winter they wear cottton or "Portsmouth" stockings, with those hateful, *hateful* high boots, which I abominate and anathematize; and between the frill of the drawers and the top of the stockings a gleam of blue flesh is discoverable at any time.

One more hit at those hateful boots, and I am done for the present—those high-heeled, high-legged, with that endless ladder of string, up which no angel ever climbed! Abominable feet gear! If laced up, insuring icy cold feet from lack of circulation; if left unlaced, the feet might as well flounder in post-holes; the heels compelling a gait similar to that of a turkey walking over hot ashes. Despicable things! I never have worn them, and never will; preferring, if need be, to come to the wooden sandal of the ancients.—Mrs. C. in *Rural New Yorker.*

Results of Sleeping Together.

More quarrels arise between brothers, between sisters, between hired girls, between school girls, between clerks in stores, between apprentices, between hired men, between husbands and wives, owing to electrical changes through which their nervous systems go, by lodging together night after night under the same bed-clothes, than by any other disturbing cause. There is nothing that will so derange the nervous system of a person who is eliminative in nervous force, as to lie all night in bed with another person who is absorbent in nervous force. The absorber will go to sleep and rest all night, while the eliminator will be fumbling and tossing, restless and nervous, and wake up in the morning fretful, peevish, fault-finding and discouraged. No two persons, no matter who they are, should habitually sleep together. One will thrive and the other will lose. This is the law, and in married life it is defied almost universally.—*Laws of Life.*

PRAIRIE WEED BALSAM,

An Invaluable Discovery

MADE THROUGH THE

INSTINCT OF HORSES,

BY

DR. WEBBER, DENTIST, OF BOSTON.

"In the year 1851, my health became very much impaired, in consequence of applying myself too closely to my business, so that I was obliged to relinquish it and go abroad. I went out into the western country for the purpose of visiting my friends there, and with the hope of recovering my health. While there, as I was crossing one of the large prairies in the great valley of the Mississippi, my attention was arrested by a large cluster of beautiful wild flowers; and never having seen the like before I gathered a few of them, and found them to emit a very agreeable aromatic odor, which impressed me with the thought that the plant might possess some valuable medicinal properties. I made considerable inquiry about it, but no one could give me any information except a Dutch farmer who lived in the neighborhood. He informed me that he had known horses, when afflicted with the heaves, and turned out upon the prairies to graze, to find this weed, and eat of it daily until they get well. I gathered a small quantity and brought it to Massachusetts, for the purpose of ascertaining what were its real medicinal properties. Since then I have proved it to be the most valuable remedy for the cure of Consumption, and other pulmonary affections, that has ever been discovered or employed in the treatment of such diseases. Please read the following account of my own case, it being the first case of Consumption ever treated with this new remedy.

In the latter part of January, 1854, I took a slight cold, and very soon after, I commenced coughing. I took some simple medicines, believing it would soon pass off. But instead of getting better, my cough gradually grew worse, and a bronchial difficulty with which I had been troubled more or less for several years, seemed rapidly to increase. For three long months the symptoms of disease increased. My cough became very severe, and my lungs were so sore that my breathing was laborious and painful. My throat was more troublesome than ever. The pains in my chest and sides were so severe that some nights I was not able to sleep at all. My appetite had left me, and the sight and smell of all kinds of food were disagreeable and nauseating. Diarrhœa in its worst form was preying upon me, accompanied with night sweats. My flesh and strength were fast wasting away. My friends pronounced me in consumption, and expressed the opinion that I could not live but a few months at most, several of my family having died of that disease.

One day, as I was thinking of my condition, and endeavoring to reconcile myself to my fate, I was forcibly seized with the thought that this *weed* which I had discovered in the Mississippi valley in 1851, would help me. And, as a drowning man who will grasp at a straw for assistance, I seized upon the idea, and arose to my feet with fresh courage.

I came to the conclusion that if it was good for the lungs of horses, it must also be good for those of man. Accordingly, I determined to make the experiment. I had about two ounces of the herb, which was all there was this side of the Alleghanies. I prepared some of it as I thought best, and commenced taking it three times a day, a teaspoonful at a dose, one hour before eating. Under this treatment my health began to improve. The pressure at my lungs was very soon relieved, and my breathing became easy and natural. All my difficulties seemed to be fast leaving me. My sleep soon became sweet and refreshing, my appetite began gradually to return, and within three weeks from the time I commenced taking my new remedy, my cough, bronchitis, neuralgic pains, diarrhœa, and night sweats, had entirely left me. I was well, with the exception of some swellings which the medicine drove out upon the surface of my body, and a general debility, from both of which I soon recovered. I have not had occasion to take any kind of medicine since. My health has not been better at any time since I was fifteen years of age than it is at the present. All of my family who have been attacked with consumption have died, and I should probably have fallen a victim to it myself had I not been guided by an overruling Providence in the discovery of this new medicine. I am now fully persuaded that by the use of the

PRARIE WEED BALSAM

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